

## ANTHOLOGY OF NEWSPAPER VERSE FOR 1928

By FRANKLYN PIERRE DAVIS

### **ANTHOLOGY**

OF

## NEWSPAPER VERSE

FOR 1928 TENTH ANNUAL ISSUE

BY
FRANKLYN PIERRE DAVIS
Member Poetry Society of America

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FRANKER DAVIS.

ARTHUR GOODENOUGH.
CHARLES A. HEATH.
HENRY POLK LOWENSTEIN.

The faithful, who have been represented in each issue of this work from the beginning.

#### ANTHOLOGIES.

Anthologies

Are dear to me! Selected from the best that be, I love their pages to explore, And con my favorites o'er and o'er, With pleasures growing in degree.

The spotlights on the things to see, The searchlights of eternity, The flashlights for the dark before, Anthologies!

They chart the literary sea
From useless travel us to free
Who seek to see each rarest shore
Nor unfamed beauty would ignore
In life's hurried itinerary,
Anthologies!

C. P. T. Zwichel.

# INTRODUCTION TO THE TENTH EDITION

Years ago I began collecting newspaper verse for the purpose of proving to my own satisfaction that the poetry contributed to newspapers was the best possible guide to the sentiments and opinions of the people generally. This is the tenth annual volume that I have published in proof of my theory that newspaper poetry is a reliable barometer of public sentiment.

In the last ten years I have read about thirty thousand poems. That is, perhaps, a greater number than has been read by any other person in the same period of time.

This study has convinced me that newspaper poems—imperfect as many of them are—are a much better indication of the trend of public thought than the editorials appearing in the same papers. Editorials at best reflect the opinions of the editors, or what the editor believes is, or should be, the sentiment of the people of his community.

Those who wish to learn the reactions of the people to the current events of this decade will find in these volumes dependable information. In making selections the editor has not been hampered by any commercial or financial restrictions. No one could ever get into these pages for a consideration, or because of high position in the literary world. This work presents a true record of ten years' study.

Among professional people, lawyers contribute by far the largest number of poems to the public press. Ministers, architects and musicians follow in the order named. Seldom do we find a newspaper poem from the pen of a physician. Among business men, those interested in large wholesale establishments are more frequently represented.

Among animals, the dog comes first as a theme for a poem, with the horse a close second. The daffodil has more than double the number of all other flowers combined. The red-winged blackbird leads all other birds.

The south continues to sing of love and beauty. The New England states are more often interested in purely local topics. From Utah comes the sweetest poems of babies and children. In fact, these are the leading themes of the poets of that state. California will not let us forget her big trees and her mountains and valleys. This year Massachusetts appears to be having a lot of fun at the expense of prohibition and flappers.

The general election of 1928 brought out many poems. All parties had fine, worthy candidates, and I had hoped for some good poems. It was disappointing to find all the poems from the friends of the old party candidates so intolerant and untrue, that I feel that I am doing the authors a favor by omitting all of them from this collection. None were fair enough to be of any interest to posterity.

The outstanding subjects; those that represented the general sentiments of the people were: burial at sea, aviation and the use of liquor and tobacco by young girls.

As usual there were themes that seemed to run over the country like a rippling wave. Burial at sea was a prominent topic. This was, perhaps, due to the number of disasters that occurred during the year. Persons living far inland, who probably had never been where they could see the sea waves washing the sands of the shore and painting the beach with pebbles and shells, wrote much of the sea. The sea was of general interest in all parts of the country. Aviation and airships were common topics. Many deplored the growing use of tobacco and liquor by young girls. From every point came poems praising the daffodil. This flower is ever represented by many poems. It is not easy to understand why this flower should prove such a favorite with the people generally.

Vermont seemed to take her flood very seriously. In contrast with the big flood in the south, if we should judge from the number of poems on each, we would be compelled to believe that Vermont sustained a much greater damage than the whole of the Mississippi flood district.

California appears to have the greater number of newspaper poets, with New York, Texas, Virginia, South Carolina and Utah following in the order named.

In the past ten years I have received poems from every state and from Alaska and Hawaii, with the single exception of Nevada. I have tried through all the sources at my command to find a newspaper poem published in Nevada, but have failed.

I want to thank the following columnists for remembering me with clippings from their columns: R. H. L., "A Line o' Type or Two," Chicago (Ill.) Daily Tribune; "From Pillar to Post," Chicago (Ill.) Daily Post; P. E. B., "The Gulf Scream," Tampa (Fla.) Morning Tribune; Googie, "Side Lights," Ithaca (N. Y.) Journal-News; Lila N. Flint, "State Chat," Lewiston (Maine) Daily Sun; Howard Case, "Down to Cases," Honolulu (Hawaii) Star-Bulletin; Lee Shippy, "The Lee Side o' L. A.," Los Angeles (Calif.) Times; Ad. B. Schuster, "The Other Fellow," Oakland

(Calif.) Tribune; W. Chesley Worthington, "These Plantations," Providence (R. I.) Journal; Clarence L. Peaslee, "Attic Salt," Williamsport (Pa.) Sun; Tessa Sweazy Webb, "Voices and Echos," Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch; Ellen M. Carroll, "Choir Practice," Charleston (S. C.) Evening Post.

FRANKLYN PIERRE DAVIS.

#### THE POETIC HOUSEWIFE.

This day two poems I have achieved And each, I know, is good. One was a simple, wholesome meal Of plain yet well-cooked food.

One was a line of snowy clothes Flying in the autumn breeze Against a background of sturdy vines And a row of orchard trees.

Blue is the sky; the clouds are white; Contented is my mood.— Two poems I have achieved this day: And each, I know, is good.

The Albany Democrat-Herald. Mary Jane Carter.

#### I HAVE TROD OUT THE WINEPRESS ALONE.

Who cometh from Edom now tell me With garments in crimson all dyed? Who thus from the bondage of Egypt Is scattered again far and wide?

I'm Israel, thy Israel, Jehovah, Knowest thou not our Father Thine Own?— One led by the Cloud and the Pillar I have trod out the winepress alone. I have trod out the winepress alone!

I have seen strange cities arising;
I have seen mighty empires decay;
I have seen time, tide and Thy tempests
Sweep false gods with their makers away,
Yet I am the same, O Jehovah,
With the scroll and the vision and stone;
Grief and the tears and the burden of years
I have trod out the winepress alone.
I have trod out the winepress alone!

The American Hebrew.

Flora Cameron Burr.

#### BLUEBIRDS.

I dreamed three bluebirds In a tree Flew down And perched upon my knee.

They were endowed with Human voices, Their words Made my sad heart rejoice.

These were the words they Said to me: Love, faith And immortality . . .

Then I awoke. In a Tall tree Bluebirds Were singing merrily.

The Birmingham News.

Mary Pollard Tynes.

#### A LA ADVERTISING.

By the shores of Cuticura By the sparkling Pluto Water, Lived the Prophylatic Chiclet. Danderine, fair Buick's daughter. She was loved by Instant Postum. Son of Camels and Victrola; Heir apparent to the Mazda: Of the tribe of Coca Cola. Through the Shredded Wheat they wandered, Through the darkness strolled the lovers, Lovely little Wrigley Chiclet; Washed by Fairy, fed by Postum, No Pyrene can quench the fire, Nor an Aspirin still the heartache, Of my Prest-o-lite desire: Let us marry, little Djer-Kiss.

The Boston Herald.

William H. Howard.

#### JAZZ LOVE.

He met her at the Chateau d'Or, A snappy dancing place, She was a quiet little thing With such a pretty face.

He was a gay collegian

Who thought he knew the game
But in the ways of dancing girls
Believe me he was lame.

He trotted round the town with her And gave her lots of things; Among them was a Chow Chow dog, A watch and ruby ring.

And one night when the saxophones Droned like a storm at sea He whispered, as he held her tight, "Dear, will you marry me?"

"Oh, Charlie, darling, let me think
Until tomorow comes."
And then she wrote "I have eloped
With the Greek who plays the drums."

The Boston Herald.

James L. Edwards.

#### PROTECTION.

I took a girl to supper At the ritziest place in town, She wore a half a yard of stuff That she declared a gown, Her knees stuck out, Her neck was bare, There seemed no covering anywhere, Well, anyhow, her head had hair!

But appearances deceived me, She was clothed in arrogance, Not all the petticoats and panties Of her grandmothers and aunties Could afford such impregnable defence. It was immense!

The Boston Herald

R. C. Skinner.

#### LINES FOR A NAMELESS GRAVE.

Over his head a chantey drones in the keen salt wind and the stinging spray,

Plucked like a plangent murmurous chord on mighty, muted strings.

What time Poseidon sings

The songs Ulysses heard or ever the glad young world grew old and gray.

Here he lies in his final port, with the breakers booming under

The sonorous hollowed scarp of the grim tormented cliffs around

That echo the sound

Of the circling sea gull's lonely cry and the ancient ocean's thunder,—

Here he sleeps unvexed by the horror of nights that never pass,

By the cold incurious stare of stars, or the dead moon's rays.—

Here, lucky fool, his days

Find nepenthe deep in the whispering salt-encrusted grass.

The Boston Herald.

Ernie.

#### OLD POEM REVISED.

Give me three drinks of gin, mother, Only three drinks of gin; It will keep the little life I have Till the party does begin.

I am dying of aches and shakes, mother, Dying of aches and shakes; But the droning tones of saxophones My weary soul awakes.

Light me a cigarette, mother,
Just one more cigarette;
I'm as cold as a frog on an icy log,
But I'm far from croaking yet.

A cat has nine lives, mother, And rarely needs but one; But I'd like a new life, mother, At the rising of every sun.

What is that honking sound, mother, That weird and soothing sound? Oh, yes, it's Jack, in his Cadillac, Who promised to take me 'round.

The Boston Herald.

James L. Edwards.

#### MAKE THE WORLD A LITTLE BETTER.

Make the world a little better!
As you journey day by day,
Share some blessing with another—
Lift some stone from out the way,
Speak a word of consolation
To some mirthless misanthrope—
Heal some hurt or soothe some sorrow—
If you have not gold—give hope!

Make the world a little better!
As you mingle in the throng
Spare a tear for him that sorrows—
Cheer the weary with a song.
When you overtake a pilgrim,
Fainting on the sterile slope
Wake his failing courage, somehow—
If you have not gold—give hope!

Make the world a little better!
As you briefly bide therein;
Break some captive's galling fetter,
Lift some sinking heart from sin.
All of human resolution
Men require if they would cope
With life's grief and disillusion—
If you have not gold—give hope!

The Brattleboro Reformer.

Arthur Goodenough.

#### VILLANELLE OF A LADY CONTENT.

Husbands are cast in no perfect mould (A sentiment probably rather trite) And they're rarely Adonises to behold.

They always refuse to do as they're told; Unshaven, they look like a genuine fright: Husbands are cast in no perfect mould.

They paw one at times, or else they're too cold; Their bark oftentimes is as bad as a bite, And they're rarely Adonises to behold.

They sometimes come home a la wolf on the fold (i. e., savage), when business does not go aright; Husbands are cast in no perfect mould.

They're likely to fall for a vampire bold. Especially once they're out of sight, And they're rarely Adonises to behold.

But I wouldn't trade mine for a galleon of gold, For I know though he acts not, nor looks, like a knight, Husbands are cast in no perfect mould, And they're rarely Adonises to behold. The Boston Herald. Helene R. B.

#### SILVER LININGS.

Sombre, ominous clouds, storm ridden, Hurtle through the sky. Crash of thunder, wild streaks of lightning All earth terrify. Wielding thus His awe inspiring, Sometimes chastening rod, Regulating wind, fire and clamor, Speaks Almighty God.

Fleecy clouds through the heavens drifting, Serenely and light, Shadows casting o'er hills and valleys When the sun shines bright, Tempering heat that else were blighting On earth and on man, Carrying out, omipotently, Nature's own wise plan.

Bowing beneath life's darksome burdens
Mankind struggles on,
Ever seeking, forever hoping
Happiness beyond.
Vain all such hope and all such seeking
While man looks afar,
Seeking things that will quickly enter
If hearts are ajar.

Every cloud has a silver lining
When the moon shines through;
Every life can its sorrow banish
If hearts remain true;
Every woe of this earth would vanish
And peace would prevail
If man to man would be but honest
And justice entail.

The Boston Post.

Edwin Gordon Lawrence.

#### THE GLORY OF HER FACE.

Del Sarto saw some beauty everywhere, But when Love came and threw his fateful dart, There was a form so graven on his heart, It never lost its fadeless glory there; For her, his wife, his model and despair, He sacrificed both fortune and his art, Yet gave his wayward love a life apart, In one bright picture that the world found fair.

O Faultless Painter, with what matchless grace, Your sweet Madonna beams on all below!
There shine the lineaments you loved to trace, From your Lucrezia centuries ago;
A glory given to a human face,
No earthly art could so divinely show.

The Boston Transcript. Washington Van Dusen.

PICARO.

Even supposing they find me dead,
With a knife at my side in a scabbard of red,
All over a kiss or a nubbin of bread;
Is that not a fate less bitter to dread
Than dying slowly in my own bed,
While I pluck at the sheet that will cover my head?
The Burlingame Advance-Star.

Lee Hinton.

#### THE BUM LAMB.

In herder's parlance, a bum, or bummer is a disowned or motherless lamb.

While wandering campwards late today, Upon a mound of gumbo clay I found a pitiful little shape With sides caved in and mouth agape;

Poor orphan lamb.

Oft have I watched you while on trail,
With lagging feet and tremulous tail;
Watched and pitied, more than you knew
When you got knocked flat by a militant ewe,
Thou luckless lamb.

O futile life that you have led; No Ma to teach you where to bed, Or gently baa! you up to lunch When you were playing with the bunch. Wee bummer lamb.

That bickering plaintive little bleat

Was just a plea for more to eat. But when you tried to rush the gate, Some watchful mother banged your pate.

I'll say so, lamb.

Came autumn winds and slushy snow, The toothpick legs refused to go. The bunch went on; a coyote pup Looked you over, but passed you up.

Poor boney lamb.

Here on this mound enjoy your sleep.
May you go to Heaven and find Bo-Peep
And throw in with her long lost lambs
Enjoy good care; forget earth's slams.
Wee flattened lamb.

Here on a slab of virgin pine
This epitaph I gladly sign:
"His time on earth was full of strife;
Fate switched him away from the stream of life."
I mean—the lamb.

The Casper Independent.

Red Cummings.

#### THE VALLEY OF LONGING.

Encircled by mountains mighty,—
Bridged over with sullen skies,—
A country of dreams and visions
The Valley of Longing lies;
A naked and sterile valley
Where never a blossom shows
And never a green thing gladdens
The traveler as he goes.

Like phantoms, like wraiths, like goblins
The vapors arise and crawl
And the clouds like threatening pinions
Droop dismally over all.
And over this weary valley
And the folk who dwell therein
Grimly two shadows hover—
The shadow of death and sin!

Does your heart interpret the picture?
You will know it by and by!
The world is the Valley of Longing—
And the dwellers are you and I!
And no man has read the secret,
And no man has solved the sign;
Tho' sages and seers have striven
For the purpose is one divine!

And up from the Valley of Longing
Leads a beautiful shining stair
At the summit with hands outreaching
Stands the stately Angel of Prayer!
The Brattleboro Reformer.

Arthur Goodenough.

## SUMMER SOLSTICE ON THE WAPSIPINICON.

On to the ocean . . . onward lovely stream
And cool the yellow birch along your edges;
Leave me among these clean hills with my dream—
Leave me the cedars, rooting in your ledges.

Leave me your blue-gill and your water thrush—Give me the mellow song that marks your flowing: That noisy Chat, now mating in the brush,
Tipsy with bird-love, sobs to watch your going.

Always you leave us, river, yet you stay, Your endless silver ribbon keeps unwinding; Now youthful Summer woos his tender way, Bringing you jeweled treasures of his finding.

Moons of the sky hang over you each night, Lighting your path and giving soft caresses: Suns of the solstice noons are hot and bright To wake the lustre of your willow tresses.

The wild rose in the pastures tells how you
Each June have whispered sweet things to the swallow
And how before the Summer's span wore through
He flutters back on wings too weak to follow.

Then leave me here, my river, let me dream!
Useless my ardent pledges of devotion:
God, it is hard to love a queenly stream
And have a heartless rival like the ocean!
The Cedar Rapids Gazette.

Jay G. Sigmund.

#### AT HATTERAS LIGHT.

Here where the frail white strips of sand Shake in the desolate sea, The withered sedges wail on the edges Of wind-bitten dunes and sandy ledges, And the wind blows over me.

The wind blows over, and swift, wild horsemen Toss white hair in the sun,
And I hear the crying gulls and the flying
Curlews forever calling and crying,
Crying till time is done.

I look at the lighthouse tower and wonder When I shall cease to be; And the wind blows over the dead sea-rover, Over the bones of lover and lover, Over the world and me.

The Charleston Post.

Howard Mumford Jones.

#### SEES ZEP LOVE BOAT.

Sail on, thou ship of the fickle skies, Sail on 'midst thy dreams; Sail on, linking worlds in love's bright ties, Sail on, on Friendship's beams.

(To us, the great thing about the above poem is that the bard has succeeded in an unusual feat. Every line not only begins with "s," which is easy enough, but also ends with "s," which is marvelous.—Editor From Pillar to Post.)

The Chicago Evening Post. Rev. Henry C. Offerman.

#### BREMEN.

The Baron set his monocle. The airmen buckled leather.

And were the corpses smiling when they started out together?

Hawk—hawk—hawking with an Irish green behind And dabs of clouded Prussian blue a-woven in the wind.

A million sods along the Somme were devilishly sundered

To let the dead ones listen for a motor as it thundered, Hawk—hawk—hawking (You could tell 'em by the sound—

Whether ours or Jerry's was the bird above the ground)!

Hawk—hawk—hawking. . . . And who were those a-riding

Flush against the wing tips with their Emma Gees a-hiding?

Lufbery and Richthofen and all the R. F. C. Come to take formation in a crimson century!

Pray we could have seen them when a petrol pipe was colder,

On the ice of Labrador where all the breeze is bolder— Pray we'd heard the cheering of the Munster Fusiliers, And the Landwehr laughing off across the angry years.

The Chicago Tribune. McKinley Kantor.

#### A SMILE.

The only thing to do with a smile
Is to wear it on your face
And make it welcome any while
To occupy the place,
There showing joy without disguise
Then spread it will apace,
Just like a sunbeam multiplies
Upon a baby's face.

A smile will keep the day atune,
Good Nature knew its worth
By putting in our month of June
A smile around the earth;
And while its revolutions run
Unceasingly thru space
The moon joins in about the sun
With a smile upon its face.

The sweetest thing to do with a smile
Is to keep it on the face,
By gold untold yet not worth while
In any other place;
Man richer is than Sheba's queen
With all her Ophir lace
Who gains the name he long has been,
"The man with a smiling face."

This secret my beloved knew;
Oh! I can see her face
Where loveliness more lovely grew
So plainly could one trace
The winsome smile which hovered there,
And adding grace to grace,
Left all entranced when she would share
That smile upon her face.

The Chicago Post.

Charles A. Heath.

#### AFTER THE COLLISION.

A swerve and wildly shricking brakes, The crash of splintered glass; A reeling world revolves and quakes Into a tangled mass; I fall through vast eternities Within a second's space. Then deadened brain and blinded eyes— A soundless, empty place . . .

Must I come back to noise and men—
Go through this door called Death again?

The Charleston Post.

Louise Crenshaw Ray.

#### BITTERSWEET.

With strong white arm, Aloft he holds the pledge goblet, Filled with wine, And through the lustre Of its ruby charm, Glow radiant years, all mine.

Parched lips would hungry taste Life's sweetness once again; Lest anything of joy should waste Every shining drop would drain.

In vain,
For now with palsied hand
I hold this heavy cup,
Dark dregs of wormwood
For me to sup.
Discontent, its poison sears me,
Yet I make no cry
Only my soul shrieks,
Dear God, let me die!

The Cincinnati Times-Star. Georgia D. Valentiner.

#### ELEGY.

So fair she lay, the brown hair's silken grace Smoothed softly from her tranquil, quiet face; And they who came and stood beside her bier Mourned for her youth, her life so brief and dear. Till one who knew how much those years had held, How broad the stream that from her spirit welled, Spoke gently as she touched the shrouding gown: "She did her work and then she laid it down."

The Cincinnati Times-Star. Ruth Winslow Gordon.

#### LET NOT YOUTH READ-

Youth
Blows through the world
Like little, laughing flames,
Like the forsythia yellow flame
Youth burns into blossom
Before it bears leaves.

Hear Youth!—Hear Youth Swagger, and strut, and brag quaintly Of the world it will make for us Who are old—who are old— And who have made the world for them So badly.

And we Imploringly,
Stretch out our hands to Youth,
Not for the world it promises,
But to warm us at the flame.
For we know—
We know
That when the leaves come
The flame blossoms will fall
And die.

Let not Youth read this. Let not Youth read this.

The Chicago Tribune.

Billy D.

#### EASTER.

Hail! Glorious day of hope to all, Upon this Heaven-haunted ball, Where Angels have events foretold That all mankind in reverence hold— Hail! Easter Morn of Life and Love Gift of the Lord above!

Though dark and drear the skies may lower, There is the ever-present Power, Who bid us evermore rejoice With cheerful, glad, adoring voice—For Death both conquered been by One The God Head's Well-Beloved Son!

Exult ye souls who once were sad! Exult, and evermore be glad! With harp, and organ, violin, And every instrument begin To reach the farthest zones of earth, Praising the Savior's worth!

Let Heaven and Earth unite this day, And own thy universal sway Thou Man of Galilee! we see Our Brother, King and Deity! Hail Lord of Love and Light alway Whom Heaven and Earth obey!

The Chicopee Herald.

William Kimberley Palmer.

#### BEING A FRIEND.

Being a friend is a gallant adventure—
You who attempt it must have in your breast
Courage unfailing, and faith that no censure
Daunts or dismays. You must give of your best;
Even before there is call for the favor
You must be ready to give or to lend.
You must stand stanch though the whole world should
waver—

Being a friend is an endless endeavor,
Not for a moment and not for a day,
Not for a year, but all time and forever—
There is no turning along friendship's way.
Ever in moments of triumphant gladness
You must be ready to praise and commend,

This is the meaning of being a friend.

Ready with tears for the seasons of sadness— Never must sympathy fail for a friend.

Being a friend takes the best that is in you.

Give it ungrudging, not stopping to count
What it will cost you or what it will win you—
He makes an error who checks the amount
Added or given from out friendship's coffer.

Summing it up when you come to the end,
Life has no prouder achievement to offer,
Nothing that's finer than being a friend.

The Cincinnati Times-Star.

B. Y. Williams.

#### HUSH YOUR LIPS FROM LAUGHTER.

Hush your lips from laughter,
For had we never known
Drift-fires full of shadows
And trees the wind has blown
We might meet another time,
Almost anywhere,
Nor, smiling at far stranger things,
I am certain, care
Softly when this Autumn brings
(Hidden in your eyes)
Half-remembered kisses
And half-forgotten lies . . .

The Chicago Tribune.

Donfarran.

#### "HE WAS CRAZY WHEN HE DID IT."

Johnny was a crackerjack when only four years old; He brought the kitten in the house, and fed it fish of gold.

The mirror and the eight-day clock, they met complete destruction

When Johnny got the hammer, and it would have caused a ruction,

But Mother said, "Now, Daddy dear, don't kick up a row!

He was crazy when he did it. But he's all right now."

In school the teacher often found that pepper filled the air;

Live mice she found within her desk, and tacks upon her chair.

The culprit was young Johnny—he admitted that 'twas he:

She told his doting parents what the punishment would

"No! No!!" they cried. "Don't touch our son! for if you do we fight!!!

He was crazy when he did it. But now he's quite all right."

When Johnny was a sheik, like Georgie Porgie Pigeon Pie,

He often kissed the flappers, and he sometimes made them cry.

They ran and told their mammas, and their mammas told his pop.

Pa would have thrashed him soundly, but his mamma made him stop.

"Now, Daddy dear, restrain yourself! Abuse I'll not allow.

He was crazy when he did it. But he's all right now."

When other crimes had grown too tame, John killed a man one day.

"We mustn't let this poor boy hang," his tearful lawyers say.

The judge and all the people couldn't fathom such a mind—

Too crazy to be punished and too sane to be confined. The jury said, "We'll fix it." So they did, and here is how:

"He was crazy when he did it! But he's all right now."

The Cincinnati Times-Star. Edwin C. Walley.

## TULE JEWELS.

Like rubies flaming in the morning sun
Lightly, dew-pearled, in my pale palm they rest—
Rich trophies plucked from fields but recent won
From wastes where wandering wild fowl used to nest.

They grew mid music of a glorious choir— The meadow-lark's sweet harmony of song, Summer's antiphonal of wind and fire, And chants that labor's lusty lungs prolong.

Rhine's terraced vineyards or Spain's finest grove No choicer riches than these ever hold; More useful they than India's treasure trove, Golconda's gems or Klondyke's gleaming gold.

Aye, truly may man rear his dream-wrought towers, Regild with poet's fancy fair demesnes, When he has vigor gained for toil-filled hours From magic stored within these jeweled beans.

The Christian Science Monitor. Oscar H. Roesner.

#### ROADSIDE MARKETS.

No more do we go marketing In crowded city stalls, And buy of girls in gingham gowns, Or men in overalls. We buy at roadside market stands Where toothsome things are seen, Of farmer boys in Sunday garb And maids in crepe de chine.

The bees that make the golden combs Of honey there displayed, Fly humming o'er our very heads, While working at their trade. The cows that gave the fragrant pats Of butter which we buy, Are watching us from pasture bars With ruminative eve.

Dear Grandma pieced those patchwork quilts, And Mother made the jams; And Grandpa, with some hick'ry smoke, Fixed those fine country hams. The pickled pears and plum preserves Were made by sister Kitty. But—that large sign tells half a truth: They're all fresh—from the city.

The Cincinnati Times-Star. Adaline H. Tatman.

#### THE FLY-UP-THE-CREEK.

Note: The green heron is sometimes called the keywhack, because that is what it says, and the fiy-up-the-creek, because that is what it does. Where the creek banks fail at a river's marge, And races the packet and drifts the barge, I stand on a log as the world runs by, And little there is escapes my eye. I watch the kingfisher picket the shore, The waft of swallows above the stream, The scuttle of crabs on the river floor, And the great blue heron's humorous dream— Keywhack, keywhack, what a bivouac! When dwindles the noon, and day is antique, I fly up the creek, I fly up the creek.

The creek is the place for fowls like me:
I have sat on its every walnut tree,
And numbered the willows, rank on rank,
And the sycamores along either bank;
And I know the holes where the sunfish hide,
And the pools where the small frogs make a tune,
And the things that the cricket-folk confide
In the lazy province of afternoon.
Keywhack, keywhack, it is good to be back!
For what is there more that a bird may seek?
I fly up the creek, I fly up the creek.

Where the creek winds westward, my gaunt wife breeds In an elder bush, in a land of weeds; And out of the nest there comes a cry For minnow, tadpole and dragonfly. But I am a rover, born and bred,
And while my young ones clamor for food, I think of stretches of stream ahead,

I think of stretches of stream ahead,
And all the pleasures of solitude,
Keywhack, keywhack, 'tis a gluttonous pack!
With hail and farewell in my fatherly shriek,
I fly up the creek, I fly up the creek.

The Cincinnati Times-Star.

Clark B. Firestone.

#### PRAYER.

I thank Thee, Lord, for little things Of life aside from daily bread. Brown velvet of the plover's wings, The silver of the spider's web.

The plaintive pipe of nestlings after dark, The booming of an angry sea, Fire crackling on the open hearth— These, Lord, are melody to me.

And Thou has made the burnished gold Of sunset sky and autumn grain, The fragrance of the mignonette, The smell of warm earth after rain.

O blessed God who offers these, The gifts of land and air and sea, Now grant an understanding heart To think Thy thoughts with Thee.

The Cincinnati Times-Star.

Elizabeth Williams.

#### STILL WATERS.

Her life flowed on like a quiet stream, Steady and deep and slow, That catches the sunlight's brilliant gleam And the moonlight's softest glow; And only the happy things were there On the water's mirror face, The sturdy trees and the blossoms fair Reflected with added grace So none might see that a constant grief Lay hidden deep or know, From the placid pool and the floating leaf, The strength of the undertow.

The Cincinnati Times-Star. Ruth Winslow Gordon.

#### THE BROKEN SONG.

You say that there are no pixies or fays,

A-mending a broken song.

And the small folk only a tale? You can believe it with me, there's a fairy that plays In a shady secluded vale Where the gnomes and the nixies and elfin folk lurk, And the sprites and the leprechauns throng; For I saw him one twilight there, hard at work

The Cincinnati Times-Star. Howard Maxwell Bogart.

#### THE FOLLOWER.

(Dedicated to All Leaders.) I have followed with my fathers, seeking golden goals you pointed. I have followed from the river-drift and floe-From the prehistoric clay To the chance of yesterday, And you fail me as you failed me long ago.

You have led and I have followed—oh, the eager quest ing footsteps Of the slave become the hero—heart afire. Till the fateful morning came, When you left me, to your shame, For the paltry, passing gaud of your desire

You have asked, and I have given, all the human trust within me:

You have led me by the love-strings of my soul—And to-day upon your hands
Lies the heartache of all lands,
And to-day I'm blindly groping for the goal.

I, the mock of all the ages, ever seeking never finding; I, the everlasting sacrifice to power; I, the pawn with which each gambles
Till I'm herded to the shambles—
And my heart's blood pays the reck'ning hour by hour.

I have followed with my fathers—petty princes I've created,

And they fail me as they failed me long ago:
So I still must pay the toll
In the anguish of my soul
Till I learn to lead myself where I would go.
The Concord Daily Monitor.

Jack Lively.

#### ON THE EVENING AIR.

Stars of the night bring a message to me From one who is far away;
A new moon is sailing the sunset sea
And dusk dims the dying day.

Wind of the night, waft my message a-far Where one is waiting to hear; I have wished a wish on the wishing star To lend him comfort and cheer.

The red rose is drooping her petals low Soft leaves are sighing above; It is time at twilight, the world must know, To hear the whisper of love.

A new moon is sailing the sunset sea, I've wished on the wishing star; Stars of the night, give his message to me And waft my message a-far.

The Columbus Dispatch.

Mildred Schanck.

### MOSS.

In cool and cloistered groves I often see In fragile beauty growing near the ground Soft moss in deep jade green; there is no sound. No pulse, no whispered words of melody, Clinging to loam or rock or swaying tree, Its silky texture is securely bound, Protecting like the bandage on a wound; The loveliness of moss is poetry.

There is a mystery in silent things Enwrapped in tranquilness of latticed wood, Nor storms can stir their peaceful solitude, So like the twining of rememberings, As April brings new faith in bursting flower. Such miracle is found in mossy bower. The Columbus Dispatch. Tessa Sweazy Webb.

## CANDLE-LIGHT.

My candles weave For me at night, Slow shadow-drifts Of fragile light, Pale little dreams That pierce the gloom Around my heart; About my room.

The Columbus Citizen.

Helen Myra Ross.

## SOME DAY.

Oh! some day, I shall have a house, A lawn and garden plot to keep, A flag-stone path amid tall flowers, An ivy-shaded porch to sweep.

Some day a house will be our home, Where little folk will sing and play; And we shall know great happiness When that house is our home—some day! The Columbus Dispatch. Mary E. Schanck.

## SUNLIGHT ON THE HILLS.

As a bud long held in thraldom Would unfold in beauteous bloom, So sought a bondage melody To scatter clouds of gloom. Elusive, dim, insistent, It strove to penetrate The mistiness of vanished years, Faint courage to elate. At length with noontide fullness My consciousness it fills: "Though shadows veil the valley, There's sunlight on the hills."

Fell on my heart its music
As dew on drooping flowers!
A glowing rainbow spanned the sky,
Irradiant, the hours!
Now when the heavens lower,
Gray clouds are hanging low,
And memory keeps fingering
The strings of Long Ago,
I voice this angel message
Till calm my spirit fills:
"Though shadows veil the valley,
There's sunlight on the hills."

The Conway News.

Cora Barber Crarv.

# WILD NIGHT WIND.

Cold, silent prowler of the dark,
Merciless, relentless and stark,
Sweeping in from the subterranean seas. . . .
To stir my frail rose bush sleeping 'neath the eaves.
With hints of winter in her eyes,
She swoops down—a prey from the skies,
Scattering the roses to their early death,
And flinging its fragrance in mood of wrath.
It claws at your window like cats,
Leering at you like phantom bats,
Pleading you to dare her enter your chamber—
That blustering plunderer of a rambler.

The Daily Nippu Jiji.

Isami Morita.

### WEEDS.

We walked together, hand in hand,
One long past night in June;
We found a field of lady's lace
Swaying beneath the moon;
I gathered some, you sharply spoke:
"The weed will spoil your dress."
And carelessly you tossed aside
Their patterned loveliness.

God wove, with all his artistry,
A pattern in my heart,
Of love for you, but you decreed
Our fate it was to part;
My love for you was judged a weed,
To toss in scorn aside,
And like the lady's lace that night
My love, uprooted, died.

The Cincinnati Times-Star. Annette Patton Cornell.

### MOTHER.

Tawamure ni Haha wo seoite sonoamari Karokini nageki sanpo ayumazu. Ishikawa Takuboku.

Playfully, I carry my mother
As she carried me of yore;
Her unexpected lightness startle me—
I am unable to take three steps afore!
The Daily Nippu Jiji. Shinju Akahoshi.

## CHALLENGE.

Death, I am not afraid of you. You shall not drop me into nothingness. I have seen a worm turn into a butterfly . . .

When you think you have conquered me,
By breaking my body in two,
You will find that you have made a door
For the hand of God to reach through.
The Dothan Eagle. Scottie McKenzie Frazier.

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### SEA CHILD.

Up from the lap of the sea when the bubbles of morning were breaking,

Showering crumbles of gold to the quivering lips of the dawn;

Up from the beckoning beach when the eyes of the waves were awaking,

Cheeta came gathering driftwood, dipping along like a fawn.

Cheeta came singing a song, interlaced in a tatting of laughter,

Scattering atoms of hope to the sorrowing hearts left aland;

Dancing ahead of the waves, while the ripples came following after,

Reaching their tongues to the footprints cut in the wavering sand.

Weaving an intricate step to the orchestral drums of the ocean,

Strange as the fantastic voice of the silvery winds of Capri;

Singing a song to the waves, in a whispering surge of emotion—

Heir to the calm or the tempest, moods of the vast mother sea.

The Detroit News.

Helen Janct Miller.

# TO AN OLD DESK.

In this dim corner of the antique shop,
Where sunlight filters through a dusty pane,
And spiders weave a never-ending chain,
Where visitors are few, nor many stop,
This fragile little desk, with ink-stained top,
And worn with years and pale with water-stain,
Lost and forgotten as an old refrain,
But serves a stringless 'cello as a prop.

Perhaps a maiden spilled out her heart's tide, Bending above it, on some day of old; Perhaps a poet, crouching at its side, Beat out his dream in words of burning gold; What memories, O little desk, are yours Of gay cloud-castles or of mad amours?

The Dallas Morning News. Berta Hart Nance.

# THE CHRISTMAS BELLS.

Swinging, ringing, joyously swaying, Peal after peal on the ambient air, Spreading the song of hope o'er the landside, Ring the sweet bells their glad anthem of prayer. Whirling, swirling, mirthfully swinging High above earth in the tall belfry tower, Ring the fond bells their inspiring message: That Love is the great, the exalting power. Shouting, routing, ringing triumphant, Hark to the peals of the clamorous bells! List to the song contained in their story, The glad song of Love which their message tells: "Peace upon earth," so runs the story; "Good will unto men," it tells us to show; Thus does this message signify Heaven May be by us brought down to earth below. Swinging, ringing, joyously swaying, Filled with the spirit of Christ at His birth, Gladly the bells proclaim the grand story: "Good will unto men and peace upon earth." Edwin Gordon Lawrence. The El Paso Times.

## SUBMARINE S-4.

We shall forget, who can look on the still
Gray twilight wandering down the earth to where
Our hearthstones blaze with crackling flames that spill
Their lovely, leaping brilliance on her hair.
Safe in our warm sweet oneness we shall hold
Our dreams intact, nor turn a grieving head
To those lost voices calling from the cold
Wet dungeons of the lonely, submerged dead.

We shall forget, who did not feel the smash
Of splintering, ramming steel, the wild descent
Down smothering waves that swirl and crowd and
crash

With suffocating strength; the limbs that bent Through centuries of pain; the torturing tap Of hope that mocked the faint, quick, struggling breath

Of men who ached to live; the last long rap
That brought no answer but the void of death.

We shall forget this brave, young, martyred blood, Thrilling at stars and sunlight and the keen Storm-winds of angry seas. That knew the flood Of passion's highest tides, yet wore the clean White robings of a soul bound by the dear Imprisonment of love's enrapturing bands. We shall forget—while they recall the smear Of their own children's sticky, dimpled hands! The Detroit News. Cecelia Maloney.

### IN MEMORIAM.

James Whitcomb Riley.
I've bin huntin' hants uv Riley
Down upon the Brandeywine,
An' a-feelin' kinder smiley,
When their shadders intertwine.

'Round the alter uv my bein',
Az in years uv long ago,
When the ceilin' uv my seein'
Wuz a million miles I know.

Fur hiz foot prints I've bin huntin', In the sands along the crick, Whar he uster hang hiz buntin' In the shadders cool and thick.

While he paddled in the water Made immortal by hiz pen, An' it seemed that he had orter Greet me with hiz, "Hello Hen!"

But he'z ambled to a country,
Out uv sight uv kith an' kin,
An' I only hear the echo,
Uv hiz passin' mid the din.

To what bourne beyond the river, Whar their harps are never still, An' the muse is tuned forever To the wisdom of *His* will.

The Greenfield Daily Reporter. Henry Coffin Fellow.

## THE HAPPIER TOMORROW.

If this should prove the all of life,
Which I am sure can never be,
What little would I hope to do
Beyond the hurry and the strife,
Its common joy and melody—
The something fine and good and true?

What could I bring this dear old earth
To leave it happier, indeed,
And count for something till the last,
What little gaiety or mirth,
What comfort filling sorrow's need,
What sunshine after storms have passed?

O heart of me, keep wide awake
To pleasure sweet I may bestow
Upon my loved ones here and there!
Let me consider just their sake,
Sing them the songs they'd love to know
Built out of truth and beauty fair.

The Detroit Nervs.

Myrtella Sutherland

## THE CROSS IN FLANDERS.

There's a wooden cross in Flanders, by a sunken mound of clay,

And the poppies bloom beneath it while the breezes softly blow,

And they sing their dirge of sorrow in a sad and solemn way,

For the soldier boy who's sleeping where the Flanders poppies grow.

There are rows and rows of crosses but my heart knows only one,

And the poppies bloom beneath them while the breezes whisper low,

'Neath each cross there sleeps a soldier resting now, his duty done,

And they sleep in peace together there in Flanders row

I'll go sometimes to Flanders, for my heart will know the way,

And when I kneel beside them, the poppies flaming red.

The heart that there is sleeping in the little mound of clay

Will know my voice and listen, though he sleeps with Flanders' dead.

The Enid Eagle.

Helen Parkinson-Neal.

## MEMORIES.

Like a mighty hand you hold me, In the fragrance of the breeze, Wonderful the things you've told me,

Memories, Memories.

How you play with me and tease. Come caress me and enfold me, Live again, sweet memories.

As the blossoms all about me, Give their honey to the bees, Grant me yours and never doubt me,

> Memories, Memories.

We're adrift on cloying seas, Say that you can't live without me, And make love, fair memories.

When my heart is cold and aching, Stranded on black wind-lashed seas, Often I can feel it breaking,

Memories, Memories.

Touch again those wondrous keys, Joy and life and love awaking, Live with me, true memories.

The Estes Park Trail.

Elwood H. Sheppard.

### A CHINESE GARDEN.

The slant of the moon Shedding a glow of yellow light Over pagodas, Reaching to some celestial height On wings suspended Through the heavens of saffron hue To the drowsy peal Of temple bells in cadence true: The scent of incense Drugs the surrounding atmosphere And weird melodies Of ancient Cathay you may hear. Before you dragons-Symbols of death and disaster— Twist their slimy forms And you are no more the master. . . . Lies at your feet as if a-throb A dark naked pool While from some strange nook Tortured violins sob.

The Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Isami Morita.

## KILAUEA.

Hurled from the depths of the quaking earth, From the womb of hell that gave it birth, A seething sea in livid ire, Spewed the land with liquid fire; The air was filled with flame and smoke, And rent by crash and lightning stroke, When Pele raised her voice and spoke Through Kilauea. Over the wastes where Terror rode, Vast streams of red hot lava flowed, Until the molten deluge fell And made the sea a hissing hell. Now yawning pits of burning fame Mark the throats whence lava came, And Pele's voice has spread the name On Kilauea.

The Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Edward Winterer.

## PAGAN PATTERNS.

## I-THE TEETH OF LONG.

High in the pagan quiet
Of Olomana peak,
The pale Hawaiian opals
With milky voices speak,
"We are the teeth of Lono,"
The broken teeth of Lono,"
The bleeding agates speak.

High on the barren summit,
Where anguished lava runs
In knots and whorls of passion,
They count the wheel of suns
For the return of Lono.
The coming back of Lono
Is measured off in suns.

### II-HEIAU NIGHT.

Crouching in the heiau . . . ,
O, the things we said!
While the mountain rain came pouring,
And the valley wind went roaring,
And the sullen thunder rumbled
Overhead.

Crouching in the heiau . . . . O, the night we spent!
While dry groves of hau kept squeaking,
And the pale kukuis creaking,
Till we thought the shades of Milu
Filled our tent.

Crouching in the heiau . . . .

O, the things we heard!

Drum-like throbbing, bell-like tolling—
Boulders down the stream bed rolling:

Sweet at dawn to hear the chatter

Of a bird.

The Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Fred E. Truman.

## OAHU HILLS.

The red hills of Oahu,

Like a beacon out to sea

Far they glow and gleam and beckon,

They are calling me.

The red hills of Oahu,

Bare and high and proud they stand,
Like the proud and glowing banners

Of a happy land.

And when my life is over
It's there that I would lie,
On some bare hill of that island,
In the evening sky.

So if some day you miss me You will know that I have gone To the red hills of Oahu In the flame of dawn.

The Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Clifford Gessler.

# ODE AT THE WINTER SOLSTICE.

Now when the slow sun hesitates to turn The vast curve of the immemorial quern Of distant stars against the winter sky, And in these man-made streets men imitate The rush of comets of celestial spate, Let us lay off the ponderous cares of state And wend our way again to Lau Yee Chai To watch the steaming noodles marching by.

What profits us to know that the earth spins Through timeless space? That like the cast off-skins Of monstrous reptiles, many a folkless star Dark and unheeded hurtles down the steep Abyss of night? That untold millions sleep Whose dust is ours, whose dreams are ours to keep. Come with me then, and let grave thoughts be far The while we slip the fragrant steaming cha.

"Myself when young did eagerly frequent Doctor and sage, and heard much argument . . ." But now I enter where the friendly grin That shines upon the Oriental face Of Chong, warms all the chopstick-littered place, And where a Voice resounds, with matchless grace And eloquence we'd give a lot to win: "Buk shap yee!—

"Chow wan tun;—
"Chow gai si min!"

The Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Clifford F. Gessler.

### BE THANKFUL.

If only I had eyes to see
My circumstances in life,
Where I was spared adversity
Where danger too was rife;
Yet unaware went on my way
Without concern or care,
Would I not still give thanks today
For what escaped me there.

If only I had ears to hear
My widowed Mother's prayer
Above her brood with love and fear
Lest ill betide us there,
Would I not listen long awhile
In gratitude alway
To learn the secret of her smile
When came Thanksgiving day.

If only I had time to weigh
The good there is about
And follow every sun-kissed ray
Since heaven sent it out,
Clothing the fields around the earth
To nurture man—well say
Who would not bow before such worth
And give some thanks today.

The Harbor Springs Republican. Charles A, Heath.

### TWO CHORDS.

### I-FROZEN MUSIC.

One came at dawn, distraught with half-remembered sorrows,

And laid a burning head against the cold, unyielding stone of my dark breast,

And whimpered like a little child:

"Why should I wake upon a night of great winds wailing

To feel the patter of swift pigmy feet,

Like long disturbing ripples racing down the surface of a moon-enchanted pool,

Drum down upon me with old discontents and deep despairs,

And beat me down with all the old misgivings?"

But I was coaxing icy-footed songs from iron strings And pouring vials of frozen music on the flaming altars of my heart. . . .

His eyes grew large, as crystals formed of dew, when they are dropped upon a polished glass;

And as the tinkling wine fell drop by drop,

Congealing into bleeding jewels hard and cold,

A startled cry escaped those lips . . .

He dashed his head against the cold, unyielding stone of my dark breast,

And as he fell I saw fear-ridden thoughts flow, like a muddy stream,

From caverns where old dreams were wailing. . . . While on its surface bleeding jewels hard and cold Floated away colliding in the temple's gloom And tinkling . . . frozen music.

# II—DISMAL MUSIC.

And now you come to me,
Singing moon-muted melodies of love,
That, with insistent knuckles, clamor at my heart.
And I, suspicious of the immemorial maid,
Sing my harsh song to drown your lovely songs,
And dream how those sweet, lightly pouting lips
Have killed love in the past with cruel words,
And wonder if your songs and love are lip deep only.

I see in every girlish gesture a potential lie, And thru the rhythm of each melody, I feel an icy wind, where calculating eddies whirl Down dark, unsounded, subterranean streams; While somewhere, in a dismal cavern, a great heart Throbs dully, without resonance or tone.

The Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Fred E. Truman.

### HOUSE-CLEANING.

The spring is coming on again And I must tidy more The large and little bureau drawers And shelves behind the door.

And make the windows shine again, And hang clean curtains white And wax the floors and rub the chairs For seeing eyes delight.

While I am working I will feel How glad this heart of mine That Spring is coming on apace By will of God divine.

And Nature's house will soon be sweet With blossoms everywhere And I'll be free to go and come And all this beauty share.

The Hartford Times. Florence Van Fleet Lyman.

### SWEET MUSIC.

Some think the music of a city symphony
By a famous orchestra is sweet,
Some love the hum of a reel so free,
Others think that jazz is a treat.
But along about now as I roam through the fields,
And the fragrance of the woods is sweet incense,
The sweetest music that Ma Nature yields,
Is the Bob White whistling on the old rail fence.

The Ithaca Journal-News.

Phil Armstrong.

#### WADING.

Leaf-boats rocking on the tide, Ripples dancing at her side; Wavelets racing hand-in-hand, Velvet toes and velvet sand-Wading, wading in the stream, Fonder, higher in the shine On her limbs the water-line-Little girl, what does she dream!

Water of a thousand springs, Music of a thousand strings; Breezes pressing back the heat, Minnows nibbling at her feet; Wading in the cool brook-mere, Fingers dipping at the skies, Blue of heaven in her eyes. Lotus and her Eden near.

The Indianapolis Sunday Star. Lynas Clyde Seal.

## LITTLE COVES.

Dear little coves, as meek as brides, That fret the shore like turquoise beads, And twice a day, for fickle tides, Are widows in your weeds:

Dear little coves, that fill and drain Alternately, at work or play, Harvesting silver-headed grain Or blue translucent hav-

How often have you come and gone, To spread the riches of the deep Upon your shallow plates, and drawn Hill-waters to your keep?

How often have you ebbed and flowed, Like terminable hearts of time— Like mine, for all its prosy load-Throbbing eternal rhyme?

The Jacksonville Journal.

John Kearns.

## ANCIENT MARSHES.

Come . . . bend back the bright wand willow . . . gently! Thrust aside the weeds and grasses . . . gently! Part the hanging mosses slowly. gently, gently . . . lest you fright the reed birds, lest you warn the heron. gently, lest the red flamingo flame into the burning sunlight.

O Spirit of most ancient eras. Spirit of these brooding marsh lands: forgive . . . for my footsteps here are lawless footsteps in these wild, unchanging marshes!

Gently . . . straighten again the silver willows . . . bend them back! . . . Unchanging Spirit: The Earth is young, I feel her calling. Carefully fix the weeds and grasses, softly drop the hanging mosses . . . softly! . . . softly . . . lest my soul, the red flamingo wheels in fright from out these marshes.

Ancient Mother: changing, changeless receive again thy olden lover, Time is a shadow . . . the Earth is young! I am the red flamingo! The Houston Chronicle.

F. A. Dewson.

# INVERSION.

Death is a stooped old man scooping up the rubbish that litters a park.

Life is a park.

The Jewish Tribune.

Henry Kane.

#### HOME.

Where is your home?
Why friend o' mine,

The home, from which, in pain you part,

Whose Queen I ween.

Is she you deem almost divine— Is in your heart!

What makes the home,

My thoughtful friend?

You know your longings as you roam,

In dreams Each seems

To draw you where affections tend:

Love makes the home!

What blesses home—Your fond desire?

'Tis mutual trust—that is the price!

One stone

Alone

Will not suffice, there needs be pyre Of sacrifice.

The Hollywood Citizen.

Frederick M. Steele.

## INNUENDO.

I stood alone to watch.
The blue-grey hounds of twilight snapped
At the heels of fleeting light.
My lips were still; Yet,
I spoke to the crimson streamers
Of a dying day.—
All men have their fancies;
Their true Gods, and their
Broken idols.—
The mighty Zeus is dust in a ruined temple,
And Mithra slumbers in a broken hull in
The blue bay of Salamis.
The blue-eyed Gods of Valhalla are no more,
And Balder, the Beautiful, is dead—
Our broken idols—

Men looked to them for immortality,
And piled high their shrines with hopes; dreams—
Then came the winds that blew across the fields of
time.—

People—legends—Gods—myths— And when shall the hand of time draw the mists Around us, and robe us in the storied past? The dreamer of the unborn years shall view Our ruined temples, and rude winds shall Disturb our dust—

The Jewish Tribune.

Marion King.

## THE DIFFERENCE.

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We are so different, you, dear, and I; A tree's just a tree to you . . . sky, just sky. Even the colors mean nothing to you; Red is plain red to you . . . Blue is plain blue.

For me red spells glory, passion, fire.
The flare of a sunset, the wine of desire.
And blue spells courage and strength and truth . . .
The breath of the heavens, the eyes of youth.

The Jewish Tribune.

Julia Lois Cahn.

# THE ETERNAL JEW.

The cynic time and all his myrmidons. Swift-rolling, unperturbed, ironic years; Arising at the dawn of stars and suns. To reign till cosmic broil their record blears, Have witnessed through their countless Argus-eyes Upon the highways of a restive earth, A weary pilgrim under alien skies Pursued by foreign scorn and bitter dearth. A scourged, derided slave in Cheop's reign, In Babylon a prisoner in cuffs, A tenant in the dungeons of Spain, A tortured victim of the Romanoffs. The ages summons: "Wanderer you are due, All yield to us and must we yield to you?" The Jewish Tribune. Simon Mayer.

### TO NATHAN STRAUS

On His 80th Birthday. (January 31, 1928.)

What shall we bring thee on this festive day
When costly gifts of exquisite design
And workmanship and texture shall be thine?
We offer thee no incense from Cathay,
Nor ivory from Hind, nor Ophir's gold,
The quest of keen adventurers of old;
No silken rug from Samarkand shall greet
Thy ravished eye, resplendent at thy feet;
Nor in the cadence of the English tongue
Shall glory and the praise of thee be sung;
Our gift and greeting shall be but a prayer:
Shalom, Shalom, God give thee plenteous peace,
Thy precious life two decades more increase
And keep thee in His everlasting care!

The Jewish Tribune.

George Alexander Kohut.

# I READ MY POEMS.

I read my poems to the sea And the waves leaped high in sight of me. I read my poems to the wind And on and on then sped the wind. I read my poems to the trees, The gentle, patient, lovely trees. I read my poems to the rocks, The steadfast, sturdy, silent rocks. I could not tell for the life of me If passing wind or leaping sea, Or silent rocks, or patient trees, Or any one, or all of these, Responded to the words I read: But I noticed with some inward dread. That the waves still leaped, the wind still sped, Long after I had ceased to read. Long after I had ceased to read.

But I read my poems to my love, At the sunset hour, in the self-same place, And caught the light that comes from above In the shining light of her pleasing face. The winds grew calm, the rocks looked up, The trees whispered in the loving-cup, The waves leaped high, the waves leaped higher, And she drew nigh, and she drew nigher, When I read my poems to my love And caught the light that comes from above.

The Kentucky Kernal.

H. H. Fuson.

### AWARENESS.

There was a time when I was unaware,
And had no conscious thought of time or space,
And never knew of beauty, song or grace,
Nor did I hope in vain, or feel despair,
And never sensed the light or breathed the air,
When all at once a miracle took place,
And I awoke the image of His face,
With power of thought to reach Him with my prayer.

Whatever course His wisdom's planned for me,
On land, in air, or on the briny deep,
I will accept my lot with constancy,
And never falter, shun, nor sigh or weep,
But be content with His divine decree
Of everlasting life, or endless sleep.

The Kansas City Times. Henry Polk Lowenstein.

## MORNING.

Grey dawn, mystical and chill . . . Shafts of light stabbing the sky Behind curtains of red and amber. The Earth in travail . . . A luminous Eye of burnished gold Peeps over the horizon. A new day is born.

The Kansas City Times.

Henry Polk Lowenstein.

## FALLEN IDOLS.

From gods of old we made our choice
For laughter and love and art,
You, Beloved, with song and faith,
And I, with a reckless heart.
For both had more than Youth requires
To worship its gods apart.

Then spoke the sage—a worldly man—
"Young hearts would ever arrange
The scattered hills, the slipping tides,
And all that is new and strange.
Yet Youth is brief, its dreams depart,
And Life will abide the change."

Then you, Beloved, you stormed at him, Such lies had ever been told.
Our love was fixed, for all he said—
"It would die while the heart was bold."
And Time could never change our gods,
For worship alone grew cold.

The dreams we dreamed are old and dim,
The cynic years rejoice
Since I, Beloved, swore naught was true
But the sound of your silver voice,
Since, one by one, we saw them fall—
Idols of youth and choice!

The Kansas City Star.

Lowe W. Wren.

# THE OLD ORCHARD.

When, fairy-like, the blossoms fall, And heavy wings the bee, Nothing matters but I should sprawl Under an orchard tree.

Here, year by year, the birds come back, Their quest more true than mine. Yet ever a wandering heart will lack The blessings of a shrine. And distance lends, year after year, A magic bloom to youth, With Time depicting the picture clear As only he paints the truth.

When apple, cherry, plum and peach Stood rooted and confined, And ever my journey's utmost reach Turned back to the love they shrined.

Reason enough why I should sprawl Under an orchard tree When, fairy-like, the blossoms fall, And heavy wings the bee.

The Kansas City Star.

Lowe W. Wren.

### NOW.

Desert and ocean, mountain and plain, Little they matter when staked against gain. For what are the fortunes of compass and clime When man can but harvest one crop at a time! April comes tripping from Winter's cold clasp And her skies burn golden to earth in our grasp, Yet for all that it matters, by office or plow— Man lives on the things Life offers him now.

Blue eyes and black eyes, the brown or the grey, Color's no matter when Love blinds the way. Tomorrow's for visions of hope and despair; Today has the glint of the sun in her hair. Ships are long coming and storms ride the seas; Tonight is more servile, who sits at her knees. Alluring the promise, though fervent the vow—A man likes the lips that are offered him now.

Summer and winter, springtime or fall, So little it matters, the old town hall Would never know Monday from Saturday night Were it not for a rally, a dance or a fight. Stalwart, old structure, proudly aloof, Yet much like a human when put to the proof, Patient and aging, nor troubles his brow But takes of the things Life offers him now.

The Kansas City Star.

Lowe W. Wren.

## THE SMELL O' MOTHER'S BREAD.

There's the fragrance o' the lily and the perfume o' the rose,

And the smell o' honeysuckle makes yer want ter sniff yer nose,

But there's not the smell o' one o' them, when everything is said.

Can compare with mother's kitchen after she's been bakin' bread,

When I've ben out a hoin' and the sun a shinin' hot And I come in glum and weary, discontented with my lot,

Then like droopin' flowers are refreshed by showers from overhead.

Is my weary spirit freshened by the smell o' mother's bread.

And my laggin' footsteps quicken as I hear the dinner call,

Smiling then I say to mother, "It's a good world after all!"

And I know the only reason that to this conclusion led, Was the smell o' mother's kitchen after she'd been bakin' bread.

The Kansas City Star. Flora Brownlee Walker.

### PATH TO PEACE.

Out 'neath the pines where the ferns and leaves are spread;

Out 'neath the sky where the blue and grey are mixed; That's where a soul finds its peace and happiness, After a day when distrust and doubt were wed.

Who could break faith, when the blue shows through the grey?

Who could know strife, when the pines breathe, "strength and peace?"

Sunshine comes through (in a life that's sad and blue) Out where a path leads to Love, and marks the way.

The Lewiston Sun. Elsia Thomas Skillings.

### STRUCTURE WORKERS.

They are gigantic, those great girders, swinging So deftly, so securely into place,

While they who move them are so small, and clinging So perilous, upon the framework's face!

And floor by floor, the splendid building rising, To their important labor does attest; These, with dexterity and strength surprising, Raising the structure skyward with a zest.

Then, if death strikes, a slight attention Is given to the builder, if he fall; A paragraph, perhaps, the papers mention, Another takes his place, and that is all.

So when we see the giant girders, swinging
All swiftly, and so surely into place,
Just breathe a prayer for those, so small and clinging
So perilous, upon the framework face!

The Labor Advocate.

Ethel Knapp Behrman.

### IN MEMORIAM.

There's a shrine in my heart That is sacred to you

—only you.

Tho we've long been apart, Still I miss you—it's true

-really true.

In your dear pictured face I find solace, you see

-do you see?

And my tears leave a trace On the lines you' wrote me

-just to me.

Now there's joy and there's sweet lilting laughter, There's music that's gay

-oh, so gay!

But love that's once given, lasts forever—and after Tho you've gone away

-far away.

The Lewiston Evening Journal. Lillian W. Pelletier.

### SPRING NIGHT.

Frogs a singin' in the swamp, Balm Gilead on the breeze, A little shiny quarter moon Showin' thro' the trees.

Everything so sweet an' new, Trustin' like an' fair, Seems like Heaven ain't fur off An' worship's in the air.

The Lewiston Sun.

Susan Stinchfield Williams.

# LITTLE STOCKINGS IN A ROW.

By the glowing Christmas fireside. In the vanished years ago, I was filling little stockings, As they hung there in a row.

One was stored with boyish treasures, From the next one peeped a doll, And the third sock, oh so tiny, Was the dearest one of all!

Now beside the Christmas fireside, With the embers burning low, Comes today that sweetest picture Of the stockings in a row.

Happy mothers with your children, Count each precious moment gold, While the little ones are sheltered Safe from harm within the fold.

Thankful be—and prize the blessing Of the joyous Christmas glow, When you fill with loving pleasure Little stockings in a row.

The Lewiston Evening Journal.

Alma Pendexter Hayden.

### MOON MAGIC.

Last evening I saw an island,
With shimmering silver strand
It lay on the darkened river
Like a bit of fairyland.

The bridge from shore to the island Was a moonbeam's slender span; Beneath it the swirling current Of the cold, dark river ran.

The roofs and the soaring turrets
And the walls of gleaming stone
Of a castle out of dreamland
In the sliding moonrays shone.

But 'twas only moonbeam magic; To-day, in the morning light, No trace remains of the island Or the castle seen last night!

The Lewiston Evening Journal. Blanche A. Sawyer.

### I SHALL GO HOME.

I shall go home some distant day at twilight,
Unknowing and unknown where strangers dwell,
To watch once more the sunset from the orchard,
To sip the cooling water of the well;
To dream again the dreams I thought forgotten,
When springtime paths wound far beyond the hills.
To find the nesting orioles, and hearken
The mocking echoes of the whippoorwills.

And I shall feel the old place has remembered (Though I myself forgot for many days,)
That it will welcome me in tones familiar,
Though voiceless these, with dear enduring ways;
Then I shall rest awhile and muse at even,
For a brief space before the day is done,
I shall go home—oh, may my steps not falter
Before the road that leads me there is won!

The Los Angeles Times.

Mabel W. Phillips.

#### THE OLD WILLOW TREES.

(The other day on the top of Walker Hill, Wilton, the Luman H. Gould family felt it necessary to chop down the fine old willow trees that for more than a century had graced the driveway to their hospitable home, on account of their decadent condition.)

So they felled the fine old willows That a hundred years or more Had waved a gracious welcome To callers at your door, And said "Good-by" when going From your charming farm abode And somehow gripped the heart of all Who passed along that road; They sang or whistled sweetly As winds blew strong or low Through every season of the year-How sad to see them go! They sheltered little folks at play. And weary folks at rest: For birds, men, animals alike They always did their best! And now that axe has laid them low. These fine old willow trees: And all who knew them best are sad And on their bended knees Send up a prayer to God above, And this is what they say:— "Dear Lord, like these old willow trees, When I must pass away May folks who will remember me Feel sad to see me go, But glad that I, like these old trees Was faithful while below."

The Lewiston Journal.

Rev. William Wood.

## BEARGRASS CREEK.

The trees are looking up the stream,

They think that spring comes down that way.

And who can say it is a dream?

That trees know nothing, who can say?

I've often seen the filmy veil

That spring wears caught on willow trees

Across a meadow. Without fail,
Spring's fragrance, wafted on the breeze,
Tells of her coming long before
I hear her whispering at my door.
The violet buttons of her shoes
Lie on the grass in threes and twos.
The trees are watching and they seem

To know that spring comes down the stream.

The Louisville Courier-Journal. Kalfus Kurtz Gusling.

### THE UNKNOWN REPORTER.

Jim Keene was a reporter on the Trib, Who didn't get a by-line once a year,

But there never passed a day when he didn't peg away
At some lines which brought some other fellow
cheer.

He wrote the piece that built a home for orphans, He helped to win the teachers better pay,

And, though nobody knew, he was just the fellow who Got the facts which brought the gunman's gang to bay.

Wherever there was pestilence or strife Jim went beside the doctor or the cop.

He wasn't any beauty and he never bragged of duty, But there couldn't any danger make him stop.

He wrote the stuff that brought the milk for babies,
He wrote the truth which brought a despot down—
Though another got the credit it was Jim first sensed and said it,

And then proved it, and set free the whole blamed town.

So when people talk about the Unknown Soldier And proudly pay deserved respect to him,

Though I hear the rat-tat-tat of machine guns, and all that,

Something somehow always makes me think of Jim With his rat-tat-tat-tat-tatty old typewriter,

Fighting battles for mankind each day and all—Yes, by golly! While there's Jim and ten thousand more like him,

This old world is pretty safe, though heavens fall!

The Los Angeles Times.

Lee Shippey.

### THE BAD LITTLE BOY.

He took his mother's scissors, which he knows he musn't touch.

And went into the garden, where he knows he mustn't go.

And cut off all the lily buds we'd counted on so much (They would have bloomed for Christmas and set all the house aglow.)

And so, of course, we spanked his hands and sent him off to bed

With angry looks and scoldings (we so much misunderstood)

But when we saw him lying there asleep, tear-stained and red,

We loved him just as achingly as if he had been good.

He seized upon the mixing bowl when mother's back was turned

And poured out on the kitchen floor what was to be dessert;

He stood wide-eyed and wondering while words about him burned,

And then we spanked his hands again—yes, truly, till it hurt.

We stood him in a corner till he sobbed his heart in two (One twisting sticky finger tugging at his curly head)

And then we asked him sternly—very sternly—if he knew

The reason. "Why, for helpin' muvver do her work," he said.

Oh, but he's bad, so very bad he keeps us in a fret! He climbs on chairs to get at things and makes a lot of muss.

He breaks a law a minute—sometimes two or three—and yet

When we look at him sleeping something stabs the hearts of us.

He is so close to fairyland he cannot help but stray, Misled by elfin fancies, though with high romantic aim.

We feel as may our Father of our greater sins, and say: "Strange visions may mislead him . . . but we love him, all the same."

The Los Angeles Times.

## AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES.

Out from the tunnel's mouth the runner flashes A gleam of white on darkened cinder track. Acclaim and catcalls are like lead-tipped lashes His spirit bears to victory or the rack. Quick thoughts like prayers surge within his brain: "The game's the thing. That fellow's form is good. Winning or losing there must be no stain To smirch my record. God, if I but could Win, win for Alma Mater and the boys!" Sturdy, yet graceful, as a silver hake, He warms up slowly; silently he joys In feeling fit. The runners quickly take Their places. "On your marks. Get set." . . . He grins Lightheartedly . . . One mighty lunge . . . He wins!

The Los Angeles Saturday Night. Annice Calland.

### THANKSGIVING.

What is Thanksgiving to you? A football game or cranberry sauce, An ancient custom, covered with moss, What is Thanksgiving to you?

No more than a holiday On which you lazily lie abed, Only arise so you may be fed, Or a bit of bridge to play?

Is not Thanksgiving for all—
You and the "kids" and "hubby" and wife—
To pause in thanks for a happy life,
Remembering well that fall.

About three hundred years ago, When stalwart hearts in a country wild Saw that the sun and earth had smiled, Defying the coming snow? What is Thanksgiving to you?

The Milwaukee Journal.

Lindsay Hoben.

## SLIPPERY PLACES.

Waiting for the mail Has always been a favorite pastime In country towns. The ones who get the least mail Spend the most time waiting for it. It used to be that way in Weston Where the mail came by stage. The crowd always gathered there Not only to get the mail But to see who "come on the stage." One spring day the street Was a perfect glare of ice. It had rained for a day Until the roads were rivers And then it had turned cold. Frank Lovejoy was picking his way From his cutter To the store steps. The usual crowd was waiting for The stage to come in with the mail. Frank had almost made the steps When his feet flew out And he sat down on the ice. Rev. Higgins was just coming up And finding Frank wasn't hurt, He said to him in his most unctuous manner: "Brother Lovejoy, 'the wicked stand In slippery places'!" Frank looked up at him from his seat On the ice. "Yes, I see they do, Parson, But I don't see how in time they do it." Walter A. Hard. The Manchester Journal.

# WINDS.

We catch the whisper, sense the gentle breeze, Take comfort in its coolness on the brow, And delve in learning to discover how And whence it comes and where beyond those trees It drifts into the breathless noon-day calm. We follow it on multi-colored maps Across the plains to snowy mountain caps,

And hear it wake the forest-fir-trees' psalm. It curls majestic in cyclonic form With fiery forked disaster in its train, Wild rivers, floods and devastating rains,—The vast uncharted madness of a storm. Oh, breezes bearing voices of the sky, You chant of God—uncomprehended—nigh!

The Milwaukee Sentinel.

Sam Bryan.

## WAITING.

Waiting—Simply waiting for the Master's final call; To face the last tribunal, before the judge of all; And render strict accounting of my stewardship while here;

Cheerful and complaisant, without one qualm of fear.
I'm waiting, simply waiting.

Waiting—Simply waiting for the final scene to close, When I shall lay Life's burden down and rest in sweet repose;

Rest from strife and turmoil, seeking peace of soul; Waiting for the bell to ring when I have made the goal.

I'm waiting, simply waiting.

Waiting—Simply waiting for the Reaper stern and grim;

Waiting for the harvest to be ripened well for him; My dreams of life are over, my earthly work near done;

And with pleasure and enjoyment I watch the setting sun.

I'm waiting, simply waiting.

Waiting—Simply waiting as the clouds go rolling by, Basking in the sunshine beneath an azure sky; The sunshine soon will vanish, the sky be overcast, And night will draw the curtain, and darkness come at last.

I'm waiting, simply waiting.

The Mill Valley Record. W. G. Bratton.

#### ARMISTICE DAY.

Not call to arms, but call to peace,
The day that bade the carnage cease,
This is the day we celebrate.
Once rang war bugles, far and near
In every section of our land.
Today they ring out, loud and clear
Urging our youth to understand
That civic courage ranks as high
As that which led men forth to die,
Although those men we all hold dear.
Armistice, ending war and hate,
This is the day we celebrate.

The Mill Valley Record.

Margo.

### THE ROSARY.

Each woman has a rosarv. She "tells" it in her dreams, Seeing life's jewelled moments Of joy in flashing gleams. But-times she takes the chaplet up. And touches the hard cross, And all the joy of all her life Is outweighed by a loss. It may be that a noble son Has died in bloody war, Or that a loved daughter Has gently gone before. She clasps the cross quite humbly, She dares not let it go, Altho' the waves of anguish Engulf her as they flow. The cycle of her dreaming mind Brings 'round the cross of pain. But now, a holy law has changed Apparent loss to gain. For, by the mystic alchemy Of a surrendered soul She sees her joy and pain atoned In a transcendent Whole.

The Mill Valley Record.

Joan Woodward.

#### LONGING.

Out from the tenement's highest row. Out from the broken and toppling blind I peer and whisper: I love you so— Pray, come tonight on the summer wind— Out from the throng of the angels there, Come to the maiden you used to know, With the lovely form and the wonderful hair; And a heart that thrills to the long ago.

They say I am old and will soon be there: Each day is an age while I wait for you-Cheat fate a little and take me away Where the seeming is real and the false is true. Gather me swift from the form I wear. Our hearts will in deathless love entwine. Fulfill the edict of long ago That made me yours, as you are mine.

The Mobile Register.

Millie C. Pomerov.

## ONE WALKS IN LITTLE SEMINOLE.

Lift, swing, of a ponderous arm—to grip Darkly into old earth's long-nested dream. Tautly the rope, this way, that . . . then drip, Drip, drip, of a slow disgorging stream . . . Gold.

Black hates by artifice of common need String on the fringe of chance a common creed. Flag-lashed derricks planted against the sky-Men's hearts at the roots of them . . . the gnawing cry Of hunger to bring forth children . . . Flags! lift high

For the earth is yielding! In engines' drive and throb The trumpet of dead hopes; its vision always to be Flag-lashed to their derricks; hosannas out of their

Each in his own hope finding—dare he but see . . . God.

The Muskogee Phoenix.

Hala Jean Hammond.

# AUNT SHAW'S PET JUG.

Now there was Uncle Elnathan Shaw,
—Most regular man you ever saw!
Just half-past four in the afternoon
He'd start and whistle that old jig tune,
Take the big blue jug from the but'ry shelf
And trot down cellar, to draw himself
Old cider enough to last him through
The Winter ev'nin'. Two quarts would do,
—Just as regular as half-past four
Come round, he'd tackle that cellar door,
As he had for thutty years or more.

And as regular, too, as he took that jug Aunt Shaw would yap through her old crow mug, "Now, Nathan, for goodness' sake, take care, You allus trip on the second stair: It seems as though you were just possessed To break that jug. It's the very best There is in town and you know it, too. And 'twas left to me by my great-aunt Sue. For goodness' sake, why don't yer lug A tin dish down, for ye'll break that jug." Allus the same, suh, for thutty years. Allus the same old twits and jeers Slammed for the nineteenth thousand time And still we wonder, my friend, at crime. But Nathan took it meek's a pup And the worst he said was, "Please shut up. You know what the Good Book says befell The pitcher that went to the old-time well." Wal. whether 'twas that or his time had come Or his old stiff limbs got weak and numb Or whether his nerves at last giv' in To Aunt Shaw's everlasting chin-One day he slipped on that second stair, Whirled around and grabbed at the empty air, And clean to the foot of them stairs, kersmacked, He bumped on the bulge of his humped up back And he'd hardly finished the final bump When old Aunt Shaw she giv' a jump And screamed downstairs as mad's as bug "Dod-rot your hide, did ye break my jug?" Poor Uncle Nathan lay there flat, Knocked in the shape of an old cocked hat,

But he rubbed his legs, brushed off the dirt, And found after all that he warn't much hurt, And he'd saved the jug, for his last wild thought Had been of that; he might have caught At the cellar shelves and saved his fall, But he kept his hands on the jug through all, And now as he loosed his jealous hug His wife just screamed, "Did you break my jug?"

Not a single word for his poor old bones,
Not a word when she heard his awful groans,
But the blamed old hard-shelled turtle just
Wanted to know if that jug was bust.
Old Uncle Nathan he let on roar
And he shook his fist at the cellar door;
"Did ye break my jug?" she was yellin' still;
"No, darn your pelt, but I swow I will."
And you'd thought that the house was a-goin' to fall
When the old jug smashed on the cellar wall.

The New Canaan Advertiser.

Holeman Day.

#### MOTHER.

"She traveled the journey before you, She has known all the cost of the way; She paid out the price to its fullness, That motherhood only can pay.

She loved when the world was against you, She hoped when your hope sank and died; She clung to your hand when the clinging Left scars in her heart, deep and wide.

She labored—and loved—and was happy, For down in her kind heart, she knew Your kindness and love would repay her, For all that she did—just for you."

The New Canaan Advertiser.

H. G. Benedict.

### CASTLES IN SPAIN.

On clouds born of sunshine and roses I dwell in an endless domain, Whose portal of Hope never closes, And dreams hold a magical reign; Where springtime forever is gilding The turrets which rise o'er the plain—The dreamland of constant upbuilding Of castles—our castles in Spain.

I built the most wondrous of castles,
Whose gardens of perfume I fain
Would plunder of joys as my vassals,
To people my castle in Spain.
And Friendship and Trust were my pages,
To sing the celestial refrain
Of kindness and truth which through ages
Dwell only in castles in Spain.

And oft in my chariot of fancy
I soar from these haunts in disdain,
To conjure by sweet necromancy
A surcease of trials mundane;
To rest in my castle's seclusion,
In peace with my vassals to reign,
And bask in this land of illusion—
My castle, my castle in Spain.

But now my great castle is crumbled,
Its ramparts I guarded in vain;
The fervor of youth has been humbled;
My vassals and pages are slain.
Oh, Youth with ideals a-teeming,
Oh, Age with thy waking and pain;
The dreams which we dream, in the dreaming
Are castles, mere castles in Spain!
The New Canaan Advertiser.

Herman A. Heydt.

#### HABITUDE.

Men were amazed an unaccustomed lad Could put on fame with grace and wear it so Without conceit, not cognizant he had Worn greatness daily, without swagger show.

The New York Evening Post.

Ruth Evelyn Henderson.

#### THE CATHEDRAL.

Seed-born, God-strewn, of arbored stateliness, The vast Cathedral, umbraged deep, o'erspreads The Universe. Within its chapel groined, All mankind rest and cooling shelter finds And eke repose of body and of mind. The ceaseless vespers, voiced by tongues unseen, Addressed to sylvan altars of the air, Float through the woodland tense with sacred awe, And press upon the deep, vast silences The spirit of Omnipotence divine. Its lofty columns, shaped of pine or spruce, Or of the native woods in varied climes, Support the myriad foliated spires Which skyward point their adoration.

The aisles. Of carnet laid in moss of countless years, Thrill with the power of the Presence mute, And speak of kinship firm 'twixt God and man; As an Aeolian harp of dulcet tone, The wind, subdued to solemn, reverend breath, Reveals the Spirit in each trembling leaf Which humbly nods its prayerful response. Forth from the censer of the woodland's flow'rs Waft soothingly the perfume of the glade Which brings to mundane frets a calm surcease, And wakens in the solitude profound A sense of simple love and homage mute. Long through the dismal vigil of the night The owl-sexton hoots his faithful call And harks the orisons of winged elves. Who flit in spectral train.

And when the Alchemist Transforms Heav'n's drab to morning's burnished gleams,

The dewdrops, pendant from each leafy bough, Reflect with prism glow the zenith's flush, Which filters through the vibrant, pulsing dome Like to some multi-colored window screen, And tesselates the floor, mosaic gold. The choir, 'neath the Baton's sway divine, Sings forth its praise in diapason pure, And echoes soft from out the tendrilled vault In voices of untutored harmony.

The swallow, thrush and wren of northern apse, Make common cause with all the denizens Of East and West in all the universe, Who seek within the naves a refuge safe Amid their chorus of droned monody.

Anon, a rivulet, exultant, trills O'er pebbles glazed and smoothed by wild embrace Of roaring torrents which in aeons past Had shaped and fixed their present boundary; And then a pool, in silent calm, reflects In placid pose the glory of the scene, While from a hidden lecturn-bough resounds The sermon chanted by some warbler sweet, Which echoes through the wooded transcepts with The warmth of love and life.

In raiments bright,
The flitting insects wing their message brief
Of life's swift, short and transitory flight,
And symbolize our evanescent joys.
Behold now man, who sacrilegious bent,
Invades the Godborn sanctuary's calm,
And desecrates its realm with murd'rous aim.
And as the shadows slowly, stealth'ly creep
From tree to tree, the calm of peace descends
Upon the sacred, solemn edifice.
And nature rests, for God's Cathedral is
The forest, vast, eternal.

The New Canaan Advertiser.

Herman A. Heydt.

# ACROSS THE YEARS.

When Christmas comes again with star-dewed skies And earth is blanketed with gleaming snow I hear the glad Hosannas softly ring Across the years, from that long, long ago.

I see again, on Mary's lovely face
The dream and benediction of that hour
When prophecy fulfilled, the Christ should come
To meet the cross and try its cruel power.

And when I think of that rude manger where
The little Christ-child lay his kingly head
I marvel at this gracious gift of gifts
Which through the years has healed and comforted!
The New Dominion.
Elizabeth Davis Richards.

### DREAMING DREAMS OF YOU.

I thought I knew how I would feel
If you should go away;
I knew that I would miss you, dear,
All through the night and day;
But oh, I never once had guessed
That all I'd want to do,
Would be to live with yesterday,
Just dreaming dreams of you.

I thought that I could still live on And meet life with a smile;
I knew I'd try to do the things
I felt you deemed worth while;
But there is nothing I enjoy
Or seem to want to do,
Save just to know I'm dreaming, dear,
The sweetest dreams of you.

The New Democrat. Ruth Markley Buchannan.

## CERTAIN HOMELY GIRLS.

On rainy days Nature is cross; And when she feels forlorn, It seems to me those are the days When homely girls are born.

She fails to twist their hair in curls; Or flashen up their eyes. She fumbles with her lines and curves And jumbles up her dyes.

But that devil-may-care called Love, When he sees a misfit, He chuckles up his crimson sleeves, And sprinkles her with . . . IT . . .

The New York Evening Graphic.
Rosa Zagnoni Marinoni.

IF.

If I kissed you at dawn
You would awaken in surprise.
If I kissed you at noon
You would whisper:
"I love you."
If I kissed you at dusk
You would sob:
"Don't leave me"—
But . . .
If I do not kiss you . . .
You will remember me . . .

The New York Evening Graphic.
Rosa Zagnoni Marinoni.

# BEN JONSON, JR.

Love brushed my eyes one golden day And blinded them with glory; Heigh ho! thought I, I'll write a lay And tell all men my story!

No line of it was written then, And none until the morrow; Alack-a-day! I dipped my pen In gall and bitter sorrow.

The New York Evening Post. Wilfred J. Funk.

# FROM A HILLTOP.

There is a wisdom in the love of earth; There is a friendship in the valley's hand. Say what you will of books and their fine worth, They have no value till we understand.

The tree's huge labor breaking through the soil, The silence of this hill against the sky, The plow that furrows and the seedling's toil, The awful quiet in which oak trees die.

They have no value till we sense the surge Of rivers put beneath a forest bed, Of sun and wind and rain whose lives must urge The flower's breath, the apple's green to red!

The New York Times.

Bert Cooksley.

#### MOTIF.

I shall remember glowing things, but none so bright as this,

A scarlet rose against a bank of mist-blown clematis.

I shall remember quiet things, but none will be more cool

Than wind on watercresses, growing by a pool.

I shall remember weary days, but none will be so long As a day that died with weeping that had been born with song.

I shall remember dreadful things, but none worse than the sound

Of a small bird singing, to the thud of falling ground.

The New York Times. Catherine Cate Coblentz.

#### SALUTE!

Sixty years from Gettysburg and sixty days from God! Oh, all the flags are flying in the street!

The limping remnant passes by with wistful smile and nod.

For some leather-lunged young orator to greet.

But we have seen their passing and we want no windy words;

Their presence is a sacrament today.

The flash from off their buttons of the glint of golden birds

Is more eloquent than all that men can say.

Sixty years from Gettysburg and sixty days from God! We lift our hats in token of respect,

And though next year may see us putting roses on their sod.

Today, we here salute them . . . The Elect!

The New York Times. E. Leslie Spaulding.

### SILHOUETTE.

Of course, I thought I'd never let him stay, But, anyhow, I'd save him from the street And dreadful woes that might befall a cat So very small and wabbly on his feet.

He was a kitten black as licorice
From spiky tail to wee, shoe-button nose.
His eyes were blackish gray, and dark as soot
Were all the cushions underneath his toes.

I'd bought him from an urchin for a dime, And, for another dime, when day grew dim, I'd buy a vial of chloroform, I thought, And put a swift but gentle end to him;

Or send him to a shelter for stray cats—
This might be kinder. Then I looked, and, oh,
He made the quaintest little silhouette
Against the kitchen surbase, white as snow!

A week before I'd seen some silhouettes Bring forth, at auction, bids absurdly high, And these weren't soft and cuddly and alive; These couldn't give a white-toothed, pink-mouthed cry!

And so, I thought I'd name him "Silhouette,"
But call him "Silly," almost all the time,
For silhouettes are quite the rage just now
And one can't often buy one for a dime!
The New York Times. Violet Alleyn Storey.

# THE GYPSY FROM GALWAY.

Oh, I have heard it's very rare
To find a gypsy lass that's fair!
They're swarthy and their eyes are dark,
Their hair is brown as chestnut bark,
But early morning yesterday
A gypsy came across my way
With hair like silver touched with fire
Above her green and white attire.
That she was gypsy I was sure
With eyes delphinium-demure.

And when I said, "It isn't right That any gypsy be so light!' She answered, "Oh, the little folk Forevermore must have their joke: And when in Galway I was born, My mother broke the bloom of thorn And spilled its sacred, welling sap Before she took her noonday nap! So while in thoughtlessness she slept. The broken thorn lay there and wept Until the little folk all flew To stop its wound, with much ado! And seeing me, they touched my feet With drops they caught, to make me fleet; And as they touched my eyes, there thinned Before my sight the paths of wind! And when their humor grew more bold, They touched my hair, and it was gold. But then I saw my mother start, Because they touched my very heart!"

And when her uttered words were still I was alone upon the hill. I could not trust my eyes, and vow I don't believe it happened now! But just the same, I will not break The sweet-starred hawthorn sprays to take!

The New York Times.

Sonia Ruthele Novak.

# RICHES.

The coins of autumn
Fall upon the earth—
Sun-minted gold,
And copper pieces thrown.
The ground is a miser
Gathering the worth
Of leaves the spendthrift
Winds have spent and blown.

I walk upon this wealth, Rich as a king— Coins for my dreams, And songs the heart must sing.

The New York Sun.

Helen Maring.

### THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL.

The crystal pool, in shadowed symmetry, Reflects the Grecian beauty of a shrine A grateful nation built in memory Of one who loved all men; whose blood, like wine, Was spilled in sacrifice. He followed stern And martial paths; his life was marred with tears, Yet is a fitting symbol for this urn Of classic grace.

Though slowly-certain years, Exerting their inexorable might, Shall use the marble as they used the man; And lichens dull the alabastar-white Till it is dark as a wind-whipped caravan; Within the heart a temple strong and vast Defies time's gnawing power that crumbles stone!

Fame's leaves may wither in the fickle blast Of adulation . . . love, and love alone Remembers—like a sudden storm at noon—Those whom the jealous gods call home too soon.

The New York Times.

Louise Crenshaw Ray.

# WINDS AND WATERS.

Give me a wind through the tree tops roaring. I love quiet, but after death, Far and far though my soul goes soaring, This spent body will draw no breath.

Give me the tumble of foaming water.

I love peace, but the moments fly,—
Swift, so swift—I may not have caught her,
Ease of My Heart before I die.

Give me the high and the hot endeavor. I love dreams, but I cannot stay. Little I have to pledge forever, A fleeting hour in a fleeting day.

Give me the road my feet may follow. I love rest; when the quest is done, One look back over height and hollow, Purple and gold in the setting sun.

The New York Times. Lewis Worthington Smith.

### BARE LEGS.

Farewell sheer hose that held me breathless lest A sudden run should ruin your perfect mold. For now my limbs shall strut forth grandly cool And pass unhalting shops where hose are sold.

And I shall save the coins that once I spent
In new creations fashioned to allure . . .
But—what I save . . . I fear that soon will go
To the first shop that starts a "Leg-i-cure."
The New York World. Rosa Zagnoni Marinoni.

### THE INTOLERANTS.

They have placed our God on a great white throne
In the city that's built of gold,
While the earth-mother pleads for a crust of bread
And the child of the slums is cold.
His angels play on their golden harps

Unmoved by a human sigh

The fruit on the trees of the garden of God Lie waste while the warstricken die.

Parched are the lips on the Afric strand; On the sullen Egyptian shore,

While the millions of China shall ask of Him For a mouthful of rice—no more!

Yet they say that the River of Life is free; Its banks are evergreen,

And there's never a tear, save the tear that falls From the eye of the Nazarene.

All undefiled are the robes they wear Where only a few may go,

While festering lies the Indian vales And crimson the Russian snow.

They've placed Him safe and have placed Him far Where the nightless seasons roll—

Far away from the wail of the weary slave And the cry of the sinsick soul.

But God's grown weary of harps, He says And the shores of the tideless sea—

He longs for the streets where humanity weeps And the fishers of Galilee. They may place Him safe, and may place Him far As they like, but He will not stay. Blood-drenched the great white throne of the land; The cup of His fury is red in His hand And they know and they fear His day.

The Nonpartisan Leader. Flora Cameron Burr.

### SEA BURIAL.

The engines stopped. Then suddenly They gave the body to the sea.

No sound, save quicker pulse and blood As canvas glided over wood.

One moment tense and still as death That made each witness hold his breath.

And then that far-off heavy sound As grey-green waters closed around

This cold and stiffened bit of loam, So silent, and so far from home. <sup>-</sup> The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot. John Richard Moreland.

### THE SNOB.

She knew a lord: "I met him once, my dear, In London," and her eyes shone at the thought; "And Baron So-and-So, a dashing peer." A young lieutenant whose grandfather fought

At Flodden Field had led her out to dance. She had a button that adorned a king, A ribbon from a Chevalier of France— Gossip to last you through an evening.

Her name sweet fashion's charities has graced, Yet sick and beggared passed her unaware; No poor relation ever could have faced Her jewelled lorgnon with its brittle stare.

Now she is dead she greets Christ with a nod, He was a carpenter, but she knows God. The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot. Virginia McCormick.

### THOUGHTS.

Before my eyelids curve in silver rest, My thoughts, like sparrows harbored warm and deep, Ruffle their feathers, preen their dusky breast, Then put their heads beneath their wings and sleep. The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot. John Richard Moreland.

### A DESIRE.

If life holds much for me that's good,
Then give me strength to bear it;
And if for me it holds a crown,
Then may I wisely wear it.
For there is nothing quite so sad
As man endowed with treasure
Whose strength is so inadequate
He sinks beneath its pressure.

The Oakland Tribune.

Elna Forsell Pawson.

### GYPSY FIRES.

Children of Egypt; before Saul, Ever afield in brier and leaf, Halt caravan as shadows fall, On strange or friendly fief.

The freemen of the wand'ring foot
Take breath, make caravansarai,
Neath budding bough, by twisting root,
'Tween a green carpet and blue sky.

In manner deft, the Romanies
Set up their flares, and kindling fires
Cast lurking, eerie witcheries
On fragrant clumps and trees like spires.

The gammer, the tribe's seeress, croons, In sleepy voice, each chi, each maid, Dream-wrapt, with heavy lids, communes; A-muse in firelight and shade.

Two roms their age-old fiddles bow, To a slow noctrune; a black sea Of shadows rustles; night winds blow For sleeping ryes in glade and lea.

The Oakland Tribune.

Alex R. Schmidt.

# JOHNNIE-JUMP-UPS.

We climbed the hill, where fern-lined trail
Wound to an open meadow—
Ah, never was so green a vale
In sunlight or in shadow!

The yellow fairies met our sight—
Such joyous little faces!
The Johnnie-jump-ups sprang o'er night
To deck the sun-warmed spaces.

Tho' close to Nature's breast they grow,
These darlings of the rill-time,
No gorgeous blooms in stately row
Could thus reward our hill-climb.

We kneeled down on the pulsing sod, And tempted were to kiss them, And as we gathered, prayed that God Would surely never miss them.

The Oakland Tribune.

Bessie I. Sloan.

## LIPSTICK.

And, it is all written with lipstick, sealed and signed.

Blood is the pigment of life and youth And lipstick is the color of blood; Our race is losing its life and youth And resorts to tinting instead of the truth.

The Oakland Tribune.

Greta Larsdottir.

# MOODS.

Rain and wind and a frowning sky, A soul depressed am I; Sun and zephyr and smiling sky, A soul inspired am I.

The Oakland Tribune.

Alice Gertrude Poque.

### OPALS.

I love all the tints in the Western sky, At the close of a warm, clear day; When the sun goes West to its well-earned rest, And the Moon and the Stars hold sway.

For the flaming red and the softer blue,
And the hues on the white clouds high,
Makes a pathway bright for the feet of Night,
Creeping onward through the sky.

Though the Artist strives with a cunning brush
To imprison the sunset grand,
And his work is fair—all the glory there
Is out of the reach of man!

But God hid the sunset and all of its hues In the heart of a gleaming gem, And all of man's art can never impart The beauty he gave to them.

For into the Opal he poured the clouds, Drifting white in the Western skies, And the colors bright of the God of Light, The blue of a baby's eyes!

So art has rebelled at the Master's skill, And jealously called it taboo, Till the man is rare that will choose to wear This gem of a sunset hue.

And we who would wear it despite the ban, Risking ruin for its colors bright, Chance the bitter smart of misfortune's dart, For the prisoned rays of light.

Yet we cast defi at the artist-clan, While we scoff at their voodoo great, For we wear the gem as we laugh at them, And fly in the face of Fate!

The Oakland Tribune.

Rauol Dorsay.

### "REMINISCENCE."

I saw a face that wind and sun had tanned,
A pair of twinkling eyes, where lovelight beamed,
I felt the firm warm pressure of his hand,
He kissed my cheek, a kiss, so real, it seemed
That I lived in the past—I had but dreamed.

The Oakland Tribune.

Gertrude Schroder.

#### RETROSPECT.

There was a time we stood upon a wind-blown cliff And looked on fields of golden tasselled corn, And watched the day and night in fond embrace While pale white shafts of light brought us the dawn.

There was a time we drifted quietly down a stream Beneath a canopy of star-jewelled skies And in the hush I heard a night-bird's plaintive cry And saw your love reflected in your eyes.

There was a time when life and things semed cruel to me,
When sorrow came and we two had to part,
But you came back at dusk with rose-filled arms
And sobbed yourself to sleep upon my heart.

The Oakland Tribune.

Greta Elliot.

### TRAIL MAGIC.

Oh, come little maid with the great brown eyes, Come out on the trail with me. And lay aside your pout and tears For laughter and melody.

For out on the trail where the wind blows free We are brother and sister to bird and bee—Oh, there's wonderful things in the world to see If your heart's in tune.

So, come take my hand as we trudge along And your heart will be light and gay, As it pours out its joy in a happy song While we wander the livelong day.

For out on the trail we are free to dream
From the dawn of the day to the sun's last beam
And our thoughts run wild on a grander theme—
In the month o' June!

The Oakland Tribune.

Rauol Dorsay.

### SHIPS.

A gray ship on the skyline A seal upon a rock; A tug that breasts the waters, A tanker at the dock—And O, the evening shadows That wriggle on the stream, A black pipe and a pier end, A sunset and a dream!

Away from streets and store-fronts, Away from paint and glass, Where beauty is unvarnished And sailing ships may pass. Gray wood and gray smoke, And gray the swirling foam, And a speck upon the sunset Is a ship a-sailing home!

The Oakland Tribune.

Addison B. Schuster

### THE GROUCH.

An unkind word oft sent him to the garden, And there he walked, picking his way along The foot-worn path, but stopping now and then To let a toad pass . . . for a cricket's song.

With dewy cool still clinging to his clothes He'd slink into the house, out of the gloom Where star-mists hid the deep hurt in his eyes— Seeking the stuffy quiet of his room.

The Oakland Tribune.

Lela Glaze.

# "TAKE UP OUR QUARREL WITH THE FOE."

Take up the quarrel, young manhood; Press on with heart to win.

Disease and want confront us,—

Grim foes without, within.

Go over the top!

Fight poverty, fight baseness, Fight ignorance and greed; All foes of human welfare Oppose with word and deed.

Go over the top!

Take up the quarrel. Dauntless Demand that wars shall cease. Fight all that makes for warfare; Aid all that augurs peace. On! Over the top!

The Oakland Tribune.

Laura Bell Everett.

### WILD ROSE AND MYRRH.

The prairie ocean rolled away

To the rim of a turquoise bowl.

Windspun perfume on waves of heat
Aspired to a cloud-fleeced goal.

Three great black silent butterflies
Toiled, fluttering, in the field.
Behold—the passing farmfolk said—
The Sisters cut their yield.

One tossed the hay upon the rack, One drove the gentle team; One reared a prairie pyramid Against a wooden beam.

Their starched white wimples, closely bound, Lay limp on dampened cheeks; Athwart wide-streaming woolen veils Perched hats with rain-warped peaks.

Blue gingham aprons could not hide The swaying chains of beads, Whose quick click-click was antiphone To larksong from the meads. The youngest nun—kin to the rose
That flecked the greensward sea—
Wrought symmetries of flashing tines,
Like silver-shot green frieze.

She knelt to free her flowing hem From clinging briar-thorn. Like this, mayhap, the Virgin's robes Trailed fresh-strewn hay one morn.

Then smiled the little cloister maid
With reverence in her eyes,
As flashed a scene from far-off days
And distant Eastern skies.

Dear Sisters, they were women, too,
And such as we—she said—
Who gleaned sweet grass from sunlit plains
To line the manger bed.

The Oakland Tribune.

Minnie Faegre Knox.

### THE MAGDALENA RIVER.

Oh, the Magdalena River, I have seen it in my dreams, With its current sliding smoothly through the jungle, greeny gray,

greeny gray, With the wind upon its bosom making little crinkly

seams.

And the waving palms above it where the howling monkeys stay.

There are green lianas drooping, there are parrots flashing through

The trees above the water where the river dolphins play;

Giant butterflies go floating like flakes of sapphire blue, On the Magdalena River far away, and far away.

Oh, the eerie tropic twilight when the mists are drifting down,

Oh, the fireflies weaving dances like a band of gypsy stars.

While the crocodiles go drifting like logs of muddy brown

To catch some fish for supper on the sandy river bars.

Oh, the red flamingoes winging like streaks of living flame

To catch the rosy brightness of the glory of the dawn,

Oh, the ever changing jungle that is everywhere the same,

Oh, the silent, steamy river when the tropic day comes on.

Surely there, if anywhere, must be the home of true romance.

And I often think that maybe some far day, I'll have to go and see it if I ever get the chance, The Magdalena River, far away, and far away.

The Oklahoman.

Kenneth C. Kaufman.

#### CALDRON.

Into the caldron of copper night Where dreams may bubble and reel, I have poured my life's delight;—The moon is of turquoise and steel.

Into the caldron I put your name, More flavor to star-salted brew, And out of the caldron of copper night Rose vaporous visions of you.

The Oregon Sunday Journal.

Helen Maring.

# JUST BECAUSE.

Why do we love when we do not know
If the love that we give comes back?
Why do we cherish mere mortals so;
All unmindful of what they lack?
Why do we find in a humble face
All the beauty of sunset sky?
Heaven is found in the crudest place
If the heart has its love, but why?

Why do we serve with a tireless zeal, And rejoice if we gain a smile? Why do we dare to express what we feel, When it seems to be least worth while? Why do we hope for a glad return
Of the fire that has thrilled us thro'?
Why do we pray and believe, and yearn?
It is only because—we do!

The Philo-Duncan Falls News.

Helen Smales.

### DANDELIONS IN THE SUN.

Dandelions in the sun, Golden dollars every one; Let us pick them and go buy All the sea and all the sky.

Dandelions in the sun, Golden dollars every one— Who can be as rich as we Buying sky and hill and sea!

The Portland Spectator.

Annette Wynne.

### FROM ANNIVERSARY ODE.

(The University of Oregon.)
Time, never-resting, unwearied,
Gathers his pack to be gone,
Checking our rash exultations,
Driving our blind feet on;
Time, unperturbed and impartial,
Shall draw 'twixt the just and the ill,
And men are but pawns in his wallet
And move by the turn of his will.

The Portland Spectator.

Mary Lowell Rebec.

### THE BLESSING.

God bless each room, the great and small, And bless the silvery pane Thy blessed sunlight glimmers thru' E'er starlight comes again.

God bless the warmth and bless the board, Bless every loved football. Bless love of peace, Thy peace on earth, Thy blessing upon all.

The Portland Spectator. June MacMillan Ordway.

### WIND'S LULLABY.

The wind leaned over the little house And sang to it very low Of how the birds tuck in their heads, When off to sleep they go.

He sang of crimson petals curled. Of white wings folded in sleep. And drowsy-hearted blades of grass All tumbled in a heap.

The wind crooned to the little house, Forgotten his clamor and shout, Till one by one the winking lights That were its eves went out.

The Philadelphia Evening Bulletin. Rebecca Helman.

#### UNDAUNTED.

Love spreads gold strings across the hearts of men, While life presents, to each, a silver bow; Then whispers, "Play for me, O anxious child, The melodies you fain would have me know."

Some play, but lose the sweetness of their tones— Indifferent souls, who do not seem to care; While others, with rare tenderness, express In chords exquisite all the beauties there.

But love is won, and all the world is stilled. And even angels cease, it seems, to sing, When, rising high above life's dark despair, A broken heart plays softly on one string.

The Philadelphia Evening Bulletin. Charles Bancroft.

## SONG OF THE IRISH SEA.

O, the Irish Sea is a man's sea, And I doubt which I love best; The waves that race through the Channel, Or those I meet in the West, For the Irish Sea is a rough sea, When the tides are running high;

But the Irish Sea is my sea, When the winds go sweeping by.

O, the Irish Sea is a wild sea
For those with a boat to sail,
It's steady hands that must pilot
A ship through an Irish gale.
For there's joy untold when you're holding
The prow to the salted spray;
And peace in your heart at twilight,
When you're safe in Galway Bay.

O, the Irish Sea is a calm sea,
When the winds have ceased to blow;
With a turquoise sky above you,
And the emerald waves below.
With the love of a colleen waiting,
As you climb upon the quay—
Faith; God put a charm in Ireland
But He took it from the sea.

The Philadelphia Evening Bulletin. Charles Bancroft.

### ROADS.

Some roads are jolly fellows, Happy-go-lucky sports; Travelling on the level, Barely out of sorts.

Others are contrary
As any old mare
That limps to the hilltop
To turn about and stare.

One ogles beauty
And calls itself a lane,
Another wears asphalt,
Unquestionably sane.

Last comes the lone road, Latticed to the sky; The narrow, winding footroad We, one by one, must try.

The Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.

Anne M. Robinson.

### AT MASS.

My little golden rosary lies within my purse, Beside a coin, some ear-rings and a bill. And while I sit and stand and kneel, I see

My wee one in her bed at home,

A dream of loveliness that day when, holding out her baby arms

To me, she caught the glint of golden beads that twined my hand—

There by chance that moment.

She took them, curious; fingered them; crept along the Aves, caught

By larger gleam of Paters; paying casual heed to neat, small cross,

Till—with obvious thought of necklace—she bent her head and tried to slip it through.

Too small a circle, the Rosary simply lay against her hair,

The Salve just between her eyes, the tracery of chain tickling her nose

And making her laugh; the little golden pendulum of cross coming to rest against her lips.

Ah, if some day instead of touch, she feels the weight of gold

And wondering, seeks—to find a dying body swaying on her lips;

And to her nostril's not rose-fragrances of consummation's prayers,

But stench of flesh and sickly smell of new-spilled, thorn-provoked blood;

And in her ears begins the quiet, never-ceasing beat, "I thirst!"

Oh, Mary Mother!

May I have fashioned feet that leap to ladders then—John's ladders, made of wood from Olivet—

Give her hand strength to squeeze the gall from Tartar's sponge,

And other Mary, join your voice to mine, And sing with me a song to rival wine!

The Providence Journal. Mary Butler Dursin.

### VALENTINE DAY.

Yesterday was Valentine's:
I had a lot o' fun!
Got ten funny ones at school
An' guessed 'em, ev'ry one!

After supper, when 'twas dark, So's nobody 'ud see, I sneaked upstairs an' got the one I bought for Mary Lee.

Gee! 'twas pretty—big red heart, Sayin' "I love you"— With lace an' cupids 'round the edge, (Cost a quarter, too!)

I jes' walked soft across the street,
Tiptoed up the stair,
An' peeked in through the parlor blind
Ter see that she was there.

Then I quick pulled the bell an' run An' hid out in the yard, An' when I heard the door unlatch I listened pretty hard.

She said: "Oh, my!" an' giggled soft An' closed the door—an' then I waited just a little while An' tiptoed home again.

She never said a word today,
But when school 'most was through,
She turned right 'round and smiled at me—
Oh, boy! I bet she knew!

The Providence Journal.

Dorothy C. Allen.

## THE LAST TOAST.

Life! Love! Drain to the dregs Deep from a heart that knows Love for all, with never A thought for friends nor foes But the blessing of God, Who shows Love to us all, where'er one goes With His blessed Peace at the close.

The Portland Spectator.

A. MacMaster.

# LONELY, HOMING, ALL ALONE COMING HOME TO YOU.

Lonely, homing, all alone-Whither will I fly? Over wastes of moonlit sea Wand'ring till I die. Seeking homes where we have nested Under starlit sky?

Shall I find no friendly haven, Port of love's desire? Shall I sink beneath the waters When my pinions tire, Or will gentle zephyrs bear me Ever upward, ever higher?

Lonely, homing, all alone, Through the trackless blue Mounting higher, ever higher In my homing true, Ever seeking you, my loved one, Coming home to you.

The Pittsburgh Observer. Marie Tello Phillips.

# A DAY IN MY GARDEN.

Dawn in my garden! Silver dew is glistening Along the path where down my eager feet have found their way.

And in that wondrous moment stand I, listening To the veery in the forest, throbbing forth his early lav.

Tender buds that through the night were dreaming, Open wide their petals now to greet the morning ray.

Athwart the garden closes with sudden radiance streaming.

The sun rides up in splendor, bringing back the welcomed day.

Noon in my garden. Scarlet poppies bending,

Yellow butterflies sail slowly through the perfumeladen air.

In the elm tree swinging, the oriole is sending

Notes of springtime, love time, all along the valley there.

Throughout the sunny noonday the honey bee is keeping

Tryst within the lovely throats of all the flowers fair.

Among the apple blossoms the soft south wind is creeping,

There is music, laughter, motion, color, pleasure in my garden everywhere.

It is evening in my garden now! Across the woodland calling,

The hermit thrush is singing his holy vesper bell.

The silken blossom petals are falling—falling—falling, My long day's work is ended and I whisper "All is well."

Again the stars shine brightly in the far blue heights above me

The hermit's song is hushed at length, the garden's world seems still.

While I lift my grateful soul with thanks for joy at hearts that love me.

When hark! a goodnight greeting falls, I hear the whippoorwill.

### L'Envoi.

O, my lovely garden! How my heart wells full with rapture.

Tender memories, present blessings, future joys lie here in thee;

Memories of long vanished springtimes, the coming days recapture

Cherished promises and golden dreams of the summers yet to be.

The Rutland Herald.

Jane S. Butler.

### A GIRL LIKE YOU.

It's the faith of a little girl like you
That counts when the world goes wrong,
When a fellow's down and mighty blue
And his lips can voice no song.
When the loneliness seems hard to bear
And the scheme of life proves tame
It's knowing somehow that still you care
That makes a fellow game.

When he wants to quit in the first long mile,
Turn back in the grilling race;
When the goal beyond seems not worth while,
And he balks at the speedy pace,
It's then that the faith of a girl like you
Makes him reckon the coward's cost,
And he plays to win as a man should do—
The game he might have lost.

It's girls like you that keep him straight,
Keep him white clear through and clean.
It's girls like you that make men great
And not what they might have been.
Oh! it's good for the man, when all seems night;
When the clouds hide the goal from view,
Just to knuckle down and fight, yes, fight,
For the sake of a girl like you.

The Rutland Herald.

Ozias Gauthier.

### EMBERS.

Sometimes, when silver moonbeams ride the azure evening sky,
Perhaps I'll wander down those time-worn paths where you and I
Together walked in radiant dreams,
And lived and loved beneath those beams,
And built our fairy castles in the glorious heavens high.

A haunting strain of melody from song of long ago, The fragrance of a dew-swept rose,—Ah, dear! I loved you so—

The vesper sparrow's golden throat
Calls to my heart with plaintive note
And bids me to a tryst with you in haunts we used to
know.

A moon-drenched glade and shadows soft; a touch upon my arm.

Your wind-tossed hair against my cheek-Hearts beating love's alarm-

A surging rush of passion's flame,

A kiss too sweet for any name—

We found there in our first love-dream life's dearest. sweetest charm.

An eager question, and a pledge, and Life met face to

Brave, clinging hands; hot tears suppressed-Farewell! A last embrace.

A whispered prayer—'Twill ever be.

"Oh, God! keep watch 'tween thee and me."

A kiss; a smile—and then we part to enter in life's race.

The rose has crumbled to an ash and blown its fleeting

Warm in the ashes of that dream an ember burns today.

An ember burns to lure me back

Along that ancient, time-worn track-

Will-o'-the-Wisp of happiness I seek and want alway.

The Rutland Herald.

Frank F. Rogers.

# MY GOLD STAR FLAG.

There's a star in the window, for you, my son. It's gold on a pillow of white.

Around the edge, like a ribbon of red, Runs courage, insignia of might.

Love, courage, might, faith and loyalty, too, Are the five points that edge round the star;

While faith, hope and love and the prayers of my heart Are with you, wherever you are.

Sometimes it's the face of my baby I see Or a bovish face radiant with jov. It's not the star that shines in my flag; To me it's the face of my boy.

The Rutland Daily Herald.

Mrs. S. McNulty.

### THE ELECT LADY.

Even in death will she not be As other women are: Her soul in yon great arc will shine Like some transcendent star!

Her blood will change to rubies red, Her tears to pearls be turned And clouds above the likeness take For which our eyes have yearned!

Her eyes will glow in sapphires blue— Her hair be all of gold; Her smile will clothe the daffodil When winter waxes old!

From her dear grave the violets
Will have their birth in Spring;
And with the voice we knew and loved—
The nightingales will sing!

The Rutland Herald.

Arthur Goodenough.

### THE LOST ROAD.

The city's din's about me,
The city's sights I see,
But my mind is a trav'ling
Into the country free.
For to Vermont's green forests
My truant thoughts will flee,
And I'm led along a wood road,
A little mountain wood road,
That runs beside a trout brook,
Where my boy fished with me.

In my hand is a letter
From my pal of that day,
Telling of frightful flood loss,
That poor Vermont must pay.
"And Dad," he writes, "our wood road's
Entirely washed away.
Nothing is left of our wood road.
Our birch-lined, mountain wood road,
Running beside our trout brook,
Nothing but boulders gray."

A flush of shame is rising,
That my heart should be sad,
Over a washed-out wood road,
When some lost all they had,
Cattle and homes and kindred,
It makes me seem a cad.
But I can't forget my wood road,
That little washed out wood road,
That's no more by the trout brook,
Where I fished with my lad.

What can I do to help you, Vermonters, proud and stern, Bereft of homes and kindred, Knowing not where to turn? I'll send a check to aid you: A friend's help you'll not spurn, But will you rebuild my wood road, My little mountain wood road, That ran beside the trout brook? If so, my thanks you'll earn.

The Rutland Daily Herald.

Katherine S. Smith.

# HILL TOWNS.

If you love a hill town,
You greet each beckoning light
That marks a pathway of friendliness
Against the sky at night.
And when the little lanterns
Have vanished in the day,
You watch the tinted shadows,
That change and shift in play.

If you have left a hill town,
You never can forget
The clouds that tangle in the trees
And leave the branches wet.
Your heart will long for hill towns,
That climb to reach the sky,
And neighbor with the friendly stars,
That wheel in silence by!

The Sacramento Union.

Eunice Mitchell Lehmer.

### NOSTALGIA.

I'm longing now for Yorkshire and the path across the moor

That leads by silent waters, beneath a quiet sky,

That winds through purple heather to a dark and rough-hewn door

Beneath a thatch in Yorkshire, where curlews call and cry.

For there is peace in Yorkshire among the lonely hills, And healing in the solitude and grace the crags among. The bracken fronds caress you beside the shining rills, And there is blessing in the rain that falls at evensong.

There in the dusk in Yorkshire, when all the moors entice,

Go trooping past the wraiths of those whose ardent blood spilled there:

Roman and Scot and Druid, and maiden sacrifice— Lo! on your cheek in Yorkshire you feel their floating hair.

And as the moon wears westward, just as they did of yore,

They fight their ancient feuds again with club and arrowhead:

And as the daylight filters upon the dewy moor

You see them flitting onward, if you are Yorkshirebred.

The Salt Lake Tribune.

Maud Chegwidden.

# PENDRAGON LANE.

Pendragon Lane, Pendragon Lane, your name sings in my heart,

Though you and I are continents and weary years apart: For never daisies grew so fair, so rosy-tipped and tall As on the sloping edge of you, beside your old grey wall:

And nowhere else were buttercups so yellow or so bright

As those the little children plucked there, shouting with delight.

I wonder if the heather is as purple as of yore (Oh purple Yorkshire heather) on the heath you straggled o'er;

And if the peewit wheels above, and grouse go whirring by,

And if the sturdy moor-sheep stand etched against the sky.

Oh, you were such a lazy lane and never seemed to care

If e'er you reached the hilltop, or what lay over there.

And when the moon has risen, Pendragon Lane, above, Do they come forth there two by two, half whispering of love,

With here a lass's laughter, and there a gentle sigh, As hand in hand they pace the lane that leads up to the sky?

I hear them now, across the years, and wonder wistfully

If harvest moon can bring such love as once it brought—to me!

The Salt Lake Tribune.

Maud Chegwidden.

### SEGO LILY.

(It is a fact of history that in the early days the sego lily bulb was used as an article of food by the Utah pioneers.)

A ghostly flower, you wave amid the gloom, Your velvet white against the gray of sage. Dreaming, I drive an ox or olden stage, And with worn pioneers I see you bloom. For them you saved from gaunt Starvation's doom: They learned your loveliness could well assuage Both soul and body in that desert age—
Those men who journeyed West for food and room.

Your lily manna to that valiant train Gave life in famine time, so they could found A noble state . . . And now, oh argent queen Of all the mountain flowers, your brown-red stain Is but the symbol of a fleshly wound, As through the dusk I glimpse your silver sheen.

The Salt Lake Tribune.

Jessie Miller Robinson.

### POINT OF VIEW.

Three cedar trees, old dowagers, Bonneted in green, Corseted and dignified In rusty bombazine, Gossiped of their younger days When maiden trees were prim And would not dare to turn their heads To please a breeze's whim, Criticized a slender birch With prude severity, Who pirouetted in the sun Where proper folk could see Her slim, bare ankles flashing white And, disapproving, note That she was dressed in taffeta Without a petticoat.

Three scarlet maples up the hill, Soubrettes with carmined lips, Dressed in spangled tarlatan, Roughed their finger tips, Gossiped of their gayeties, Shook their hennaed hair, Wondered if a Puritan Were living anywhere Who wore a somber dress and cloak With silver-buckled shoes. And who could never do the things That actresses would choose; Then one espied the slim young birch And said in swift surprise: "I do believe a Puritan Is right before our eyes!"

The San Antonio Evening News. Hazel Harper Harris.

# GJOA—TO AMUNDSEN.

(The Gjoa, the craft in which Captain Amundsen made the Northwest Passage, is now in Golden Gate Park, at the ocean beach.)

> O Winged Winds of the North— Winds from the world's white rim— Out where the lamps of the stars Hang low and their lights are dim,

Tell me-What of my Captain-Fearless Viking of Storms-What has become of him?

Once I was free as you Upon the nights that stun. And felt the sharp, white teeth of ice, The spears of sleet and hail. And the slashing swords of the rain, But against the dauntless will of one, How could these prevail?

Now from my deck the sparrows fly, My masts are bare as a stringless harp. Except for you, O Winds, Only the ghosts of the sea come nigh.

Again, I call to you! Winds from the world's white rim, Where is Amundsen— Viking of Storms— What has become of him?

The San Francisco Examiner. John G. Jury.

# AS OF OLD.

Slow winds are wandering the low hills today Scented with perfume of fairy faced flowers; Long thoughts I'm thinking of vales far away, Where with you, darling, I passed golden hours,— Hours that forever I'll hold as a part Of the rapture-glad dreams enshrined in my heart.

Though my world's beautiful, sunny, serene, With flower and bird song and spring verdure set, Still I am longing for heart's dearest queen, And days like those gone we can never forget. But love, before long we shall know the old bliss,— You'll lie in my arms and return kiss for kiss.

The Santa Rosa Republican.

Oscar H. Roesner

### THE SINGERS PASS.

In Memoriam to Ina Coolbrith.

The singers pass:

And all our monuments and graven stones And lyric brass

That keep remembrance of their vanished tones Are but the drapings of our selfish grief.

They are not dead who sung the golden strains;

For in the music of each wind-kissed leaf

The deathless wonder of their song remains,

And every dawn

Is but an image of the lips we knew That have withdrawn

To some infinity we cannot view; Where death's unclouded vision has revealed The thing eternal that is here concealed.

The singers pass:

But in the chapel of our silent days With solemn mass

We pay our tribute to their years of praise. The singers pass, and now we give farewell

To her who kept the fires of faith with song. Perhaps beside another Bay there dwell

The joyous masters that with her belong,

And as they roam,

They toast the empire of unending spring That was their home:

But in what tongue or world or shape they sing, We know their timeless chorus shall rejoice To greet again the magic of her voice.

The San Francisco Examiner.

Alva Romanes.

### HUNTER'S ADVICE.

Deer hunting season in our hills Comes crisply in November, And brings each year exciting thrills For Nimrods to remember.

For as I pussyfoot the trail,
(Wild deer one does not trot at!)
There's hardly one whole day I fail
To get my own self shot at.

A sneeze attacks me—oh, what luck! Impossible to stifle! I'm taken for a snorting buck, And "bang" goes some boob's rifle.

Perhaps I use a turkey call,
(You know, of course, what that is!)
It's sure to bring a rifle ball
Ka-zizzing where my hat is!

The deer escape, but I, alas, Come home all perforated, Because some over-anxious ass Shot when he should have waited.

I wonder if this little rule
Would maybe cause improvement?
It's plain enough for any fool:
Don't shoot at noise or movement.

When hunting deer (and life's like that), It's always best, I figger, To know just what you're shooting at Or else not pull the trigger.

The Santa Fe New Mexican.

S. Omar Barker.

### ENTREATY.

Never believe me when I say I do not love you And never wish to see your face again; Never believe me when I say that you are cruel, I mean that you are much too gentle then.

Do not, my dear, believe the hasty words I utter Or take to heart my mockery and jeers; I only say these things to keep my throat from closing Upon the salty bitterness of tears.

Do not, I pray you, turn and answer me with coldness Then in disgust open the door and go:

I want you to close me in your arms and kiss mekiss me!

... But you are just a man.... How can you know?

The Springfield Union and Republican.

Rebecca Helman.

#### PENDULUM.

The same emotions hold a beat
Within each human clock.
Time starts the pendulum to swing
And none is solid rock
Love swings the pendulum a while,
Or ecstasy or woe . . .
A tick-tock of eternity,
And it is time to go.

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

Helen Maring.

#### AN OLD SIOUX IN COURT.

(Apparently he was quite downcast, yet there was the gleam of old fire—the free, careless fire of a thousand years—burning in his eye as he faced the judge from the mourners' bench.)

He flung some glimpses of his ancestry— Warriors and chieftains of Dakotaland, Dark, fearless braves and squaws of clever hand Had ranged before his era valiantly.

"A plain drunk," his assessment ran, He of the proud and unflinching Sioux, A town-snared victim of unholy brew, A yipping coyote—no, a fighting man.

Boiled in his veins the blood of prairie kings, Stormed in his heart old scalp-dance memories. Slipped from his tongue the trail-spun rhapsodies, And where his mocassins had been as wings.

But now he passes for ten huddled days To that grim tepee with the grating key. Great Spirit! look away and do not see This drama of the white boozemakers' ways.

The Sioux City Journal.

Will Chamberlain.

#### PAPOOSE.

(I met them, by chance, in a cafe—two buxom Yanktonaise, Sioux squaws, one middle aged, the other young, and a very fat papoose. He or she, was so swaddled in a vast flaming shawl that I conjectured the fatness from his plump, droopy, cracker-sprinkled cheeks.)

Little muskrat blackberry eyes Peeping out in wild surprise, From the red shawl's screeny cover. Is it your sister or your mother, Papoose, coddling you. After the Star cafe stew And soup bowls and pie?

No, no, now don't cry,
I'll not tap your cheek any more,
If it starts a Sitting Bull roar.
Rosebud, I might try the Sioux
That I picked up on—on you.
But, I guess, that war-whoops, howling
You'd shoot back, plus stoic scowling.

Any blood of Rain-in-the-Face Or Spotted Tail—a merest trace— Under that sumac-colored bib? Now, young warrior, don't you fib, Nor go yellow on ancestry— Not to an Irish Dutch Yankee—see? Of Hiawatha, have you heard, Or Minnehaha, the tamarack bird? Were your grandsires in the ring Of hell at Little Big Horn? Sing Out, don't stare nor pucker up, Have this sucker loving cup. Well, goodby, so long, Rosebud, Shun the rattlesnakes and mud.

The Sioux City Journal.

Will Chamberlain.

### RENUNCIATION.

At eventide the Pilgrim came
And knocked at the Belovéd's door.
"Who's there?" a voice within, "Thy name?"
"'T is I," he said.—"Then knock no more.
As well ask thou a lodging of the sea,—
There is no room herein for thee and me."

The Pilgrim went again his way
And dwelt with Love upon the shore
Of self-oblivion; and one day
He knocked again at the Belovéd's door.
"Who's there?"—"It is thyself," he now replied,
And suddenly the door was opened wide.

The Syrian World.

Ameen Rihani.

#### MOTHER'S DAY.

Just one brief day for mother, of all the whole long year?

And there is not another who holds you half so dear.

Doesn't it seem a selfish notion, when she has given you A life-time of devotion, and love both staunch and true?

When childhood ills beset you, she kissed away the pain,

And small delights she'd get you 'til sunshine came again.

When hardship laid its levy of toil and grief and care, No burden was too heavy for her brave soul to bear.

Now though your way be reaching afar o'er land and sea.

You'll not forget the teaching secured at mother's knee.

When troubles press about you as they too often will, She won't distrust or doubt you, but has faith in you still.

Then let us give to mother a lasting vote of praise; Keep this and every other year full of Mother's days. The South Akron Post. Mary Davis Reed.

#### HIGH HATTED.

Mary's hat of red Makes me blue, Almost knocks me dead, Mary's hat of red Glows upon her head, But it's true Mary's hat of red Makes me blue.

The South Bend Tribune.

Sadie Seagrave.

#### AMUNDSEN.

They have taken the cold, red canvas to set it in history; They have left the body of Malmgren adrift on a solid sea—

- But watch, watch, watch as they're willing, no bird comes out of the track
- Where the white winds wail in the Arctic. And Amundsen is not back.
- He is not down on the ices. We have scanned the ridges and flords,
- We have picked our path in the bowlders with our parkas frozen to boards.
- He is not lost in the blueness, he is not sunk in the black. . . .
- And the wintry gulls can only cry that Amundsen is not back.
- The dogs went out to the endless, the glittering blaze of white,
- With their hard feet bitten and broken by fangs of the starving night;
- And the planes drone over the misting that's frozen above the ground—
- But the pilots can only mutter that Amundsen is not found.
- The bosom that gave him muscle, the womb that sheltered him then
- Has taken him back to its secret with bones of forgotten men.
- And the shrill, sad masts of the vessels that drift in a far-locked fleet
- Could tell that they heard his orders, and felt the march of his feet!
- Tooth and claw of the polars, mail of the wicked wind, Broke the track of his going, ever his breeze was thinned!
- Malmgren lies in the Arctic and Nobile huddles in Rome. . . .
- Night of the North has fallen—and Amundsen has gone home.
- The Springfield Sunday Union and Republican.

  MacKinlay Kantor.

#### POPCORN WILLIE.

Do the angels eat apples? I wonder. . . . A bell tinkled under the trees, A shadow along the white roadway Cast smoke to an old horse's knees. . . . Oh, dinging and donging forever A peddler was crying forlorn, The psalm of his gay, hidden garden—The psalm of his cabbage and corn.

Half asleep under softness of summer A thousand doors darkened with men—
"Oh, give us fit food for a driver,
A dunce or a chittering wren!"
Half asleep through the tarnish of mid-day,
Umber hands loosened hold on the reins:
He sold them the curse in their foreheads,
He sold them the blood in their veins.

Will the angels eat cherries? I wonder. . . . A swift, happy rustle of wings, And a coin tossed to poor Willie's halo As down the deep pathway he sings! Will he seek, as he endlessly peddles His plums through viridian skies, For the customers darkened in doorways Who felt the light laugh of his eyes?

The Springfield Union and Republican.

MacKinlay Kantor.

#### SUMMER.

High
In the blue sky
A round yellow moon;
Free
In the almond tree
A mocking-bird's tune;
White
In the summer night
Roses whisper—June!

The Springfield Union and Republican.
Sarah Hammond Kelly.

#### CONSTANCY.

Two pine trees in my yard Have no especial grace; Their beauty age has marred, Yet faithfully they embrace—

But when the warm winds blow From the young, slim pines near-by, Fragrant and fresh-I know They sway apart and sigh.

The Tampa Morning Tribune. Philip E. Barney.

#### THE OAK REPLIES.

I wandered in a silent wood To where an age-old oak tree stood,

And, leaning on his sturdy breast And peering through his lofty crest,

I made my fickle fancy say: "Friend Oak, what is the time o' day?"

Then spake this venerable tree: "And who are you to question me?

My green lips kiss the face of God; You crawl or rot, a worm, a clod.

I was a tree when through these groves The nude brave chased elusive loves.

I was a tree before these sands First felt the feet of alien bands.

I was a tree when Genoa's son From mystery a New World won.

I was a tree when Ponce sailed, Hernando fell. Panfilo failed.

And what your name, your fame, your creed? A lifeless leaf, a way side weed.

What your brief hours of fears and tears Against my immemorial years?

I will be here when you are dust, Your plaudits mute, your treasures rust-

And God will smile on me and say: 'Friend Oak, what is the time o' day?""

The Tampa Morning Journal. E. D. Lambright.

#### GIFTS.

I'll brew you a drink in a crystal cup, As red as gleaming wine; When held to your lips you'll drink it up, Pressed there by hand of mine.

I'll give you a ship with slender sails, Scarlet and gav as sin. And a forceful wind that never fails To blow a vessel in.

I'll weave you a wreath of fragrant words. Plucked from my soul, a part; I'll send you the songs of a thousand birds. But . . . I must keep my heart!

The Tampa Morning Tribune.

Miss Zero.

#### SONGS.

I sing for you when you're away Songs sweeter than the dawn of day, Songs sweeter than the drops of dew That fall at night from skies dark blue, Songs sweeter than a day in spring When mocking birds and thrushes sing.

And lighter far than all of these, My fingers on responsive keys In the mystic twilight hour Seem to feel your magic power. My every tone is sweet and true In recreating them for you.

But on that night when you have come My throat is tight and I am numb. My hands are stiff, my voice is mute, My fingers in a vain pursuit Go stumbling over tremling keys Where once they played with quiet ease.

The Tampa Morning Tribune. Mary Alef Sparks.

#### A HANDFUL OF DREAMS.

I.
HALF MOON

The imps of the skies are painting the moon with the varnish of death.

TT.

MOON ECLIPSE.

Once a year the dead souls fly en masse toward heaven blackening the moon.

III.

WINDS OF ROMANY.

The wind is a wild gypsy dancer using the moon for a tambourine.

The Tioga News.

Frank Ankenbrand, Jr.

#### SPRING IN EAST TEXAS.

Today, I stood with aching throat, In sunny meadows, starred with gold, Where daisies open drowsy eyes When burnished buttercups unfold.

And I have paused in wonderment Before a dazzling dogwood tree, To barter Care for shining dreams Beneath its green—white mystery.

As close beside Spring's queenly bride, The redbuds' winsome sprays Are lifted to a mist-veiled sky, The treetops thrill to roundelays Of mocking-birds and cardinals Cascading silver-sweet, When wayward wild verbenas Spread a carpet at my feet.

But oh! the witching fragrance, Of a fair crab-apple tree In crinkled, rosy-petalled frock, Awakens Grief,—and Ecstasy;

For intermingled with delight, Comes grey Remembering,— And Joy that stabs my heart with pain: I've one less Texas Spring!

The Tyler Journal.

Mary S. Fitzgerald.

#### THE CHANGING SEA.

I watched the sea today. Its ever-changing moods appealed to me, From restlessness to sweet tranquillity So like to human life they seemed to be. O human heart, Thy faith shall triumph yet and thou rejoice Its crown to see.

The sea is restless today,
With quick impatience tossing to and fro
The white caps on the waves like crests of snow,
Uncertainty in every ebb and flow.
O troubled heart,
Let all thy restlessness subside in Him
'Tis peace to know.

The sea is angry today,
The mighty billows breaking on the shore,
I hear again their thunderous muffled roar,
While overhead the crying sea-gulls soar.
O angry one,
Let God's sweet mercy permeate thy soul
Who all forebore.

The sea is grey today. All motion, light, and colors bright have fled, The heavy clouds hang threatening like lead, The sad winds sigh as if all hope were dead. Despairing heart, Fresh courage take, for while the Savior lives Hope lifts her head.

The sea is gay today. A rollicking soft breeze blows happily, And merry little waves roll up in glee, The pleasure-boats sail by so pleasantly. O happy heart, Rejoice in Thy Redeemer, sing aloud His grace so free.

The sea is glorious today.
The ripples sparkling in the sunshine bright,
Both sea and sky a wondrous blue. The light
On yonder hills a vision of delight.
O burdened heart,
Look up, be strong, Heaven's beauties are for thee
And yet more bright.

The sea is calm today. As if some hand had soothed it into rest. Now it lies peaceful, quiet, and suppressed, No break or ripple on its placid breast. O peaceful heart, To whom the Source of peace has been revealed. Yes, thou canst rest!

The War Cry.

Captain Margaret Stratton.

### WHAT MATTER?

Books, and a cozy fire!
To me, it does not matter that the rain,
Lashed by the gale, against he windowpane,
Sweeps o'er the town,

Nor that the whistling wind, with ice-cold lips Kisses the unwilling cheek, the fingertips Smarting from his unwelcome touch, and down The ill-lit street, complaining, as it goes,

The muddy water flows.

With me, companionship of which I never tire—
Books, and a cozy fire!

The Wasp.

Ella C. Forbes.

#### A BUD.

A Bud is a flower baby, sweet and green, So small at first, it scarcely may be seen, But when it wakes it first uncurls its head, And peeps between the curtains of its bed, And then it sticks its hands out and its toes, Slips on its little dress, and is a rose.

The Wasp.

Mary E. Forbes.

#### A LITTLE COUNTRY PAPER.

I get a little paper from a little country town—
A far cry from the dailies, that on Sundays weigh us down;

It's printed every Friday, and it has no supplement, Nor colored rotogravure, but I'm always glad it's sent.

It gives no clever verses by the syndicated bards, But states that Mrs. Williams entertained some friends at cards;

"Ye scribe" saw Judge McArthur shaking hands with friends today—

It says the Curtis family sold out and moved away.

On Boulder Dam it's silent, and there's nothing on finance—

It tell that the Rebekahs gave an installation dance. That Miss Day is returning soon to open up her school, That Alexander Hargrave lost a valuable mule.

It's glad that Jimmy Gallagher can be around again. It claims that the alfalfa crop is much in need of rain; The supervisors voted for the road work to commence; Will Anderson hauled lumber for his new garage and fence. . . .

The worldly ones may smile at it, but theirs are tender smiles—

These home town items form a bond through many years and miles.

Oh, little country paper, with your little weekly talks! I like to wander with you down remembered roads and walks.

The Wasp.

Clara McCreery.

#### MONTANA WIVES.

I had to laugh,
For when she said it we were sitting by the door,
And straight down was the Fork,
Twisting and turning and gleaming in the sun.
And then your eyes carried across to the purple bench
beyond the river.

With the Beartooth mountains fairly screaming with light and blue and snow.

And fold and turn of rimrock and prairie as far as your eye could go.

And she says: "Dear Laura, sometimes I feel so sorry for you,

Shut away from everything . . . Just pray for happier days to come, and bear it."

She goes back to Billings, to her white stucco house, And looks through net curtains at another white stucco house.

And a brick house, And a yellow frame house, And six trimmed poplar trees, And little squares of shaved grass.

Oh, dear, she stared at me like I was daft.
I couldn't help it! I just laughed and laughed.
The Wasp.

Gwendolyn Haste.

#### WINSOME AS A FAIRY.

Just a dainty little Flapper
With her sock below the knee,
And a most entrancing dimple
Where the stocking ought to be.

Eyes of blue and pretty dimples
Lend their charm to form and face,
Where no lipstick has invaded
And all rouging out of place.

She is winsome as a fairy
In her abbreviated skirt,
And it is an open secret
She's a regular little flirt.

All who see her learn to love her For her captivating ways, And adorers without number Sing their peans in her praise.

Always smiling and beguiling With a heart of purest gold, She is worth a million dollars And is almost six years old.

The Wasp.

Charles L. Tompkins.

#### THAT'S MY DOG.

(Joe.)

Lying around in a shady place;
A look that's human on his kindly face,
Lazily scratching now and then
And laughing, perhaps at the ways of men,
That's my dog.

Barking a welcome when I come in,
And more to be trusted than kith or kin.
Doing his best to talk out loud
And finding his master in any crowd,
That's my dog.

Always wagging a friendly tail;
Trotting behind when I go for the mail,
Shaggy and dirty with maybe a flea
But ready if needed to fight for me,
That's my dog.

Known and loved all over the Sho'
Answering to his name when you call him "Joe"
Pedigree uncertain but he'd put to shame,
Some Christian people tisn't wise to name,
That's my dog.

Playful with children and friendly with folks,
Ready to romp—he understands jokes;
Humble of origin but a Gentleman, sure,
True blue as they make 'em, solid gold to the core,
That's my dog.

Friendly and affectionate, kindly and brave,
Sharing with his master a mansion or cave;
Patient and faithful—true to the last
He doesn't count sins nor question your past.
That's my dog.

He's shaggy and dirty with maybe a flea,
But his heart's bigger'n yours and he's loyal to me.
Uncertain of pedigree and untainted by pride,
To the end of the road he'll walk by my side.
In the big book up yonder he'll not be incog
For his soul's bigger'n mine, and—
That's my dog.

The Wicomico News.

W. C. Thurston.

#### AB CLEARWATER'S COUNTRY STORE.

It stood on a corner of the Continental Road Where a lane wandered down to a mill, And men came to it past a little white church And from over the Ox-bow Hill.

In front was a porch with wide sheltering eaves
And benches where neighboring swains
Loitered and talked of their lands and their flocks,
In the leisurely summer rains.

Within, there were boxes and barrels from Rio, With stout bags of Japanese rice—And here a boy's heart flew away on wings And dreamed of far-off, magical things—In the air filled sweet with spice.

The windows gape widely; the store has long passed; And so has the lane and the mill; With them the men that came by the church And the swains from the Ox-bow Hill.

Old country stores have a way of returning
To the heart through the mist of the years,
With faint scent of spices and dreams of childhood—
With old loves and faces and—tears.

The Williamsport Sun.

Clarence L. Peaslee.

#### CHEATING AT SOLITAIRE.

When old age comes slyly peeping, Even though she catch my eye, To her most subservient creeping Due devoirs I shall deny.

When the sun has set then boldly Phantoms of the night draw near, I shall listen to them coldly—And pretend I do not hear.

The Williamsport Sun.

Virginia Spates.

#### DON CARLOS.

(California Folk Song.)

Down on the Plaza they are dancing, Tapping pointed heels, clicking castanets, Oh, Don Carlos, they are dancing In the darkness deeper than your eyes.

Caballeros bowing to their partners, Saucy faces nod, masking in their fans, Holding their guitars, the young hidalgos Pluck the lazy music on the strings.

Oh, Don Carlos, you are lying
Dead at Monterey, slain at Monterey—
Down on the Plaza they are dancing
In the darkness deeper than your eyes.

The Williamsport Sun.

Beulah May.

#### HOUSES.

Almost I had forgotten what a house was for: So velvet-soft the green turf on earth's floor; So cool the high-hung tapestry of trees; So bright and sheer the curtains of the sun.

I had no need of houses till the day was done, And wind and storm came threatening the night; Then I remembered my warm hearth once more, And fled the frenzied rain, and shut my door.

The Williamsport Sun.

Natalie Flohr.

#### FIRE-WEED IN AUTUMN.

(A Tanka.)

The tall willow-herb Has opened its pods of seed; Should a breeze disturb This ghost of the rose fire-weed, Ephemeral wings are freed.

The Williamsport Sun.

May Folwell Hoisington.

#### OBLATION.

What shall I give you? Ah! What shall I give you? Purple of twilight and silver of mist, Gold of the sunset or flame of the sunrise, Opal of night-sky by silver moon kis't.

These would I give you! Ah! These would I give you! Flower of my heart were the right but mine! Yet all I may give is the gold of love's bondage, A heart's adoration to burn at your shrine.

The Williamsport Sun. Margie Calinder-Rule.

#### LACK.

She couldn't understand when he'd go off alone . . . Into his shop or out for a walk, Or sit by the fire staring straight into it . . . She called it stubborn when he didn't talk:

She couldn't understand one's self for company . . . And she grew suspicious as the thing went on . . . He'd draw her attention to a star in the sky, Or speak glowingly of the coming of dawn;

She didn't see what he saw in these things, They were never what she thought about . . . And she started watching, cunning as a fox, And counting each day the hours he spent out;

And he grew so tired of her small insinuations, He felt trapped like some poor little mouse, And she couldn't understand, and he didn't understand, When love up and left both them and their house!

The Williamsport Sun.

Peter A. Lea.

#### GRISELDA.

Griselda, you of the little hands, With the wanton light in your eyes, What do you care for the golden bands, What do you know of surprise?

Whitest one of the moon-mad maids, With a body lured for lust, You sing a song for the half-afraids, And you take the rest on trust!

Griselda, you of the dancing feet, Your hold is old as the sun, All-comers your crimson mouth will greet Till the last poor fool is done!

The Williamsport Sun.

E. Leslie Spaulding.

#### MOYEN AGE.

Heart of me,
If Sathanas would barter and buy and sell,
Would you traffic with him and lose me in Hell,
Heart of me?

Soul of me,
Yes, if only the Devil will chaffer and buy,
There is none so ready to sell you as I,
Soul of me.

Heart of me,
And for what simulacrum or dream would I pay?
What exchange would you get in the Black Old Way,
Heart of me?

Soul of me,
In her mirror, deep hidden, her image lies;
And the Fiend could conjure it up to my eyes,
Soul of me.

Heart of me,
I, also, am empty . . . so late filled with joy;
Call up Satan and sell me, poor desolate toy,
Heart of me!

The Williamsport Sun.

May Folwell Hoisington.

#### NANTUCKET SEA-CAPTAINS.

Men of Nantucket! Awake, the dawn's breaking! Dim in the heavens fades out the last star; Fresh'ning, the wind in the offing is calling, Welters of water dash over the bar.

Men of Nantucket! Time was when your vessels Were far on the main at daylight's first beam; Now, you lie sleeping, your loved ships forgetting, Why play the laggard! Why tarry to dream!

Men of Nantucket! Old visions still linger:
The murk of the storm, the roar of the blast;
The mist-hidden breakers, the frenzy of waters,
The doom-driven wreck, the crash of the mast.

Men of Nantucket! Your fleets are far-scattered— Lost on the sea or some treacherous shore; Great Point or Squam Head will ne'er again greet them, And Sankaty Light will guide them no more.

O, Men of Nantucket! Men of Wauwinet!

Men of quaint 'Sconset, afar down the beach!

You who so often have heard the waves calling,

How can you sleep, with the sea in your reach!

The Williamsport Sun. Harry Pringle Ford.

# TOWN OF MARINE, ILLINOIS. (Settled in 1816.)

Once sailors from New England's shores came west To found a town out on the rolling green Of prairie . . . this old dreaming town, Marine, Remains to tell the wonders of the quest. Were waves of grain like other waves they knew, Did plow and harrow count for ships once seen, Was pear-bloom foaming surf when high winds blew? The Williamsport Sun. Sophie Tunnell.

#### TIME.

Time is immovable; before it ages pass As winged things that never find their rest; Life, like a bird against the beacon's glass, Breaks its frail wings upon time's granite breast.

The Williamsport Sun. John Richard Moreland.

#### THE VAGABOND.

When he was a little boy,
He used to run away
From his red painted wagon
And the other boys at play.
He'd start down the turnpike
With his face to the sun
And he'd go just as far
As his stout legs could run,
His clothes would be dusty;
His face soiled and black,
But he'd keep going onward
Till someone brought him back.

When he was a grown man,
His heart ran away
From the fond painted things
For which most men pay—
A big, red factory
With chimneys belching smoke,
A degree from some college,
A title that's a joke—
His clothes might be dusty;
His face grim and black,
But his heart kept going onward
And he couldn't bring it back.

When he was an old man,
His soul ran away
From the ante-mortem burial
For which most men pay.
And his soul sought valiantly,
Beyond the sordid strife,
For it's own brief ripple
In the coursing stream of life.
His clothes might be dusty;
His face grim and black,
But his soul kept going onward
And he couldn't bring it back.

He didn't have a penny
At the end of his quest;
The grave was very shallow
Where they laid him to rest;

But he came not empty-handed To his narrow final place, For he carried all he'd treasured— In the smile upon his face. His clothes were worn and rusty, His features lined and black-But his soul kept surging onward And he wouldn't bring it back.

The Williamsport Sun.

Clarence L. Peaslee.

#### VIA DOLOROSA.

Via Dolorosa, narrow "way of pain"; Buttressed, flag-stoned, arch-wayed avenue, Down where storied pavements echoes fling again Tread of Holy Feet that, hurried through, Bore the Christ, Our Saviour beated and betraved. From the Mount of Olives to that hill Where three crosses lifted arms that cannot fade: Where Golgotha symboled, "Not my will."

The Williamsport Sun. Margarette Ball Dickson.

#### YOUTH.

Youth, oh youth! Be silent and but bow. There's many a man Too old to fight, But who can show you how.

The Williamsport Sun. John Hansen Rhoades.

## WHITE CLOVER.

Through an April turnstile I came to find Green fire in the meadow, Creeping, blind . . .

Through a May Day turnstile I came and Lo! That meadow conflagration Is finger-deep in snow.

The Williamsport Sun.

Anne M. Robinson.

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short story writer. Resides Cedar Rapids, Iowa.  THE CHARLESTON POST, Charleston, South Carolina.	
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ABBEYFEALE, and Other Poems. By Mary Quinlan Laughlin.

The title poem, Abbeyfeale, is a distinctive descriptive poem, with all the wistfulness of an Irish fairy story. This poem alone is worth the price of the book. Many of Mrs. Laughlin's poems are of a high order and show fine selection of words and an excellent technique. Boards and labels. Boston; Richard K. Badger, 1928.

BELLA VISTA BALLADS. By "Uncle Henry" (Henry Coffin Fellows).

A charming little book of poems written at the Bella Vista, Arkansas, summer resort. "Uncle Henry" has a style that reminds one of Riley. Cloth, gilt. Wichita, Kas.; Tima Publishing Co., 1928.

## BRIGHT WORLD. By George Elliston.

A second book by this talented poet, whose originality and beauty of expression place her among the leading poets of the time. Boards and labels. New York; Harold Vinal, Ltd., 1928.

# BUCKAROO BALLADS. By S. Omar Barker.

This is a book of genuine cowboy ballads, by a poet who is familiar with the lives of the men who ride the western cattle range. As poetry these ballads rank high. As a book of real western life I have not seen its equal. Those who want real western poetry will appreciate "Buckaroo Ballads." Barker sings of the southwest as Service did of the north. A beautiful book, bound in cloth with a cover design by Gerald Cassidy. Santa Fe, New Mexico; The Santa Fe New Mexican Publishing Company, 1928.

# A BOOK OF VERSE. By Margo.

A collection of prose poems that appeared in the Mill Valley (Calif.) Record. Mill Valley, Calif.; The Mill Valley Record, 1928.

# RAYS FROM SIDELIGHTS. By Googie.

Annual collection of prose and verse from Lional E. Mintz's column "Side Lights," in the Ithaca (N. Y.) Journal-News, 1928.

# FLAME POINTS. By J. Graydon Jefferies.

This is a well made booklet of Mr. Jefferies' appealing poems. The author has talent and the printing is nicely done by the press of the Bookmakers Publishers of Callahan, Florida, 1928.

#### RANDOM THOUGHTS OF A MAN AT FIFTY.

By John Harsen Rhoades.

This is an interesting book of poems and prose, carrying a real message of business maxims and opinions, by a man of position in the financial world. It is a worth while book and the thought back of it is very beautiful. Silk cloth. Titles in gold. New York; The Knickerbocker Press, 1928.

# THE SEA AND APRIL. By John Richard Moreland.

There is something appealing about Mr. Moreland's poetry, and a certain amount of charm in his poems of the sea. Boards. New York; James T. White & Co., 1928.